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CHERNYSHEV ON REAGAN'S ALLEGATIONS AGAINST USSR

LD191950 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1716 GMT 19 Mar 85

["Frauds of the 'Star' Adventures Lover" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 19 Mar (TASS) -- Military observer Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

President R. Reagan, speaking in Canada, has made unfounded allegations toward the USSR, having stated in particular that the Soviet Union allegedly is violating its international obligations. Washington figures never were and, of course, never will be able to undermine the high prestige of the USSR policy. The Soviet Union always fulfilled and is fulfilling its internationalist obligations, and this is recognized all over the world, not only by our friends but also by our adversaries.

It became a norm for official Washington to make noise about "not fulfilling agreements by the Soviet Union," when the administration is trying at any price to push a new colossal military budget through the Congress. And now, when the talks on nuclear and space weapons have begun in Geneva and Reagan himself is constantly talking about his "interest" in obtaining results at them, it is not so simple to advertise plans and practical deeds of Washington which are clearly against the agreed aims of the talks.

Indeed, any unprejudiced person would understand that if he has already agreed that the aim of the talks is the attainment of new agreements in the sphere of disarmament, then it is necessary at least to maintain what has already been achieved. But how is Washington acting? It has not even ratified the 1974 treaty on limitation of underground nuclear weapons testing; it is continuing to develop more and more new nuclear charges, and exceeding the agreed threshold of 150 kilotons. The Reagan administration is putting up all sorts of obstacles, striving not to allow a resumption of the negotiations on a full and total nuclear weapons test ban. It is blocking all international accord on a chemical weapons ban and is developing a chemical rearmanent program.

Challenging the world community, Washington refused to ratify the SALT II treaty, and by its attempts to break the parity enshrined in it, is trying to derail it. This was manifested in its most open and dangerous form in the deployment of the new American first-strike weapons in Western Europe, in the direct participation of the United States in the buildup and improvement of the nuclear missile weapons of certain NATO countries, in the refusal to set any limitations on long-range cruise missiles, and in the mass deployment of this new type of strategic offensive weaponry. The Reagan administration's military programs contain plans to deploy weapons which, in the event of their implementation, would mean that the United Shates would go far beyond the limits set by the SALT II treaty on ballistic missiles equipped with multiple independently targeted reentry warheads.

The U.S. President, when he announced the star wars program, in essence announced a policy of undermining the termless antimissile defense treaty of 1972, for the creation of a large-scale antimissile defense system with space-based elements, which the head of the White House is calling for, is directly forbidden by this treaty.

All of this is evidence of the fact that the U.S. President is making use of far-fetched accusations against the other side in the attempt to push through Congress dangerous military programs aimed primarily at turning space into a war arena and at creating new offensive weapons. He seeks the dismantling of existing international agreements which "hinder" Washington's militaristic course and is trying to sow doubt about the possibility of achieving an understanding in Geneva. Is it not so that the head of the White House wishes to make the public think that there is no alternative to Washington's line of intensifying the arms race and spreading it into space?

Lomeyko Article Denies Wrongs

PM191425 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 11, Mar 85 pp 5-6

[Vladimir Lomeyko article: "Crying 'Stop Thief!': Favorite White House Ploy"]

[Text] Sin and accuse others seem to be the shortest way of describing the U.S. Administration's credo on international agreements. With arrogant constancy, the White House cooks up "reports" containing groundless allegations against the Soviet Union. These "reports," presented with great pomp to U.S. Congress and, through the mass media, to the world public, pursue a dual aim. On the one hand, they seek to level further slanderous accusations against Moscow, charging it with violating its commitments. On the other hand, they are intended as a red herring to divert public attention from the U.S.A.'s own sins in the field of arms limitation.

At the end of February the Soviet Foreign Ministry issued a statement on U.S. violations of international obligations and attempts to conceal these violations by groundlessly accusing the Soviet Union. The statement noted that the Soviet Embassy in Washington had recently made representations to the U.S. State Department over the slanderous campaign unleashed in the U.S.A. in connection with another Administration "report" to Congress on alleged "violations" by Moscow of its international commitments.

This was not the first time Washington has attempted to use fabrications to cast aspersions on the Soviet foreign policy of peace and to ascribe to the Soviet side "violations" and "omissions" in the observance of arms limitation agreements. The Soviet Union has already given its assessment of these unseemly U.S. actions, as, for instance, in a memorandum published on January 30, and in the TASS statement of October 21, 1984. This time, as in previous instances, the Soviet side firmly rejected the groundless White House allegations.

Anyone who reads the latest White House "report," however, cannot help asking himself what grounds Washington could claim to pose as a guardian of international agreements, as a judge presiding over the affairs of the international community? Is it not another manifestation prompted by the messianic spirit that has recently been so much in evidence in the White House? These questions are all the more justified since the present administration has neither any moral, nor formal right to judge others' observance of agreements which it fails to honour itself.

Reading the White House "report," one is struck by its total lack of proof. It bristles with such expressions as the Soviet Union has "apparently violated" a point of the SALT-2 treaty, or "has probably violated" or "may have violated" the anti-ballistic missile treaty.

All this brings to mind what Andrey Gromyko said to political observers on January 13 this year: "As for the insinuations that the Soviet Union does not abide by some commitments under agreements it has concluded, they are sheer inventions."

You will have noted that the memorandums and letters the U.S. Administration sends to Congress and sometimes brings to the knowledge of the United Nations with allegations of this kind, contain expressions like these: There are doubts that the Soviet Union abides by such and such commitments; or it looks as if the Soviet Union is not fully abiding by such and such commitments; or it is necessary to check whether the Soviet Union really is honouring such and such commitments. But there are no direct statements with proof based on fact that the Soviet Union really violates anything. We categorically deny it. No, the Soviet Union is not in the habit of violating its commitments under treaties and agreements signed by it and other states, be it a bilateral or multilateral agrement.

Yet the White House persists in its wrongful practice: for the louder the "accusations" against Moscow become, the easier it is to divert attention from its own unseemly actions. And the facts testify that these actions are aimed at undermining the system of arms limitations and agreed measures to strengthen international security that required such an effort to set up. Here are but a few of these facts.

First. Amidst all the ballyhoo about Soviet violations, Washington is trying to conceal the well-known fact that the U.S.A. long ago embarked on undermining the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems, signed in 1972 for an indefinite period. (And yet this is the document that made it possible to conclude the interim agreement on certain measures with respect to the limitation of strategic offensive arms in 1972, and the SALT-2 treaty.) The most vivid proof of this policy of Washington's is the officially proclaimed programme of "star wars," which envisages the creation of a large-scale anti-ballistic missile system with space-based elements. And that is expressly forbidden by the 1972 Treaty.

But matters are not confined to plans and intentions. As the Soviet Foreign Ministry statement points out, the U.S.A. is going ahead with the creation of mobile anti-missile radar stations and with the testing of Minuteman missiles in order to turn them into anti-missile weapons. Both these projects are in direct contravention of the clear provisions of the 1972 Treaty. Multiple antimissile warheads are being developed. Pave Paws radar stations are being deployed to back up the anti-missile defences across most of U.S. territory. But this seems to be only the prelude to a far-reaching programme for the militarization of space.

Washington is trying to present all this as modest scientific research. But who is taken in by such claims? Even many public figures and politicians in the U.S.A. admit that such statements are unconvincing. THE NEW YORK TIMES has written, for instance, that "no programme proclaimed with trumpets from the Oval office, described as vital and funded with an initial budget of $30 billion, will be 'research' in Soviet eyes."

True enough. Those $30 billion are just an appetizer for the U.S. military-industrial complex, to whet its appetite for another round of the arms race, this time at cosmic altitudes and speeds. A staggering $1 trillion or more has been earmarked for space strike weapons.

There is another alarming aspect to these plans. The militarists today want to initiate a space marathon that would jeopardize the lives of those who have as yet no idea of nuclear holocaust or laser weapons. They want to deprive future generations of their choice and to make them live in a state of confrontation.

Second. Space weapons are described as defensive to mislead people, to deceive the uninitiated and the gullible in order to gain supremacy in outer space. The aim is to achieve military superiority and get the opportunity of delivering a nuclear strike with impunity.

It is not by chance that American officials are trying to shake and if possible, to torpedo the indefinite-term anti-ballistic missile treaty. It is a thorn in their side, for it prevents them from sating their militaristic appetites in outer space. As it attacks the treaty, Washington is nothing loath to ditch the whole process of nuclear arms limitation and reduction.

Praising his new programme, President Reagan has declared that the United States does not seek military superiority or political advantage, and that its sole objective is to search for ways to lessen the danger of nuclear war. But what is the real state of affairs?

"While the Defence Department has begun research aimed at making Soviet nuclear missiles impotent, a small Air Force programme is trying to ensure that U.S. nuclear missiles never meet the same fate." That is the opinion of both THE NEW YORK TIMES and THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE.

The project called the forward-based strategic missile systems programme provides for a sharp rise in its funding from President Reagan's budget. The money will be used to develop and test more sophisticated, variable trajectory warheads, decoys, and other means intended to penetrate any defence system that the Soviet Union might create.

The fact that these plans are doomed to failure does not change their aggressive essence.

Third. The very fate of the SALT-2 treaty is damning evidence of the cavalier attitude to international legal matters on the part of Washington which failed to ratify the treaty, despite its having been signed by the American President. It is worth recalling that in 1979 Washington insisted on the deployment of U.S. missiles in Western Europe, making this a condition of ratification of the treaty. The missiles have now been deployed, but the SALT-2 treaty has, to all intents and purposes, been thrown overboard. And yet land-based Pershing 2 and cruise missiles represent strategic first-strike weapons. Such is the true worth of U.S. promises and pledges on the limitation of offensive nuclear arms.

Fourth. At the time of the SALT-2 negotiations, both sides recognized the need to limit long-range cruise missiles. But this did not deter Washington, when it saw it fit, from starting the massive deployment of these strategic offensive weapons and renouncing any limitations on long-range cruise missiles.

Fifth. It looks as if Washington has a kind of allergy to ratifying international agreements. Even when it does sign an agreement under pressure from public opinion -- at hone or from its allies -- this does not mean that the agreement will be ratified. A case in point is the 1974 treaty on the limitation of underground nuclear weapons tests. The U.S.A. signed it, but has delayed ratifying it, not by a mere year or two, but by 11 years now. It makes any number of excuses, but the true reason is as clear as day: Washington does not want to introduce the specific and effective system of verifying the yield of explosions which is provided for in the treaty. Verification -- the White House's hobby-horse -- is precisely what upsets the Pentagon.

For it would create an obstacle to the testing of new nuclear warheads which often exceed the agreed yield thresholds.

In order to avoid observing the established restrictions on underground nuclear explosions, Washington not only refuses to ratify the 1974 treaty. It also blocks the resumption of talks on a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty. And yet the 1974 treaty directly obliges the signatories to conduct such talks.

The list of Washington's violations of its international commitments could be continued. Only details vary -- the basic pattern of behaviour remains the same. Everything that ties the hands of the military-industrial complex is either rejected out of hand or is pigeonholed pending ratification. And, shutting their eyes to their own sins, the "custodians" of international justice set about orchestrating a noisy campaign of accusations against the other side.

The world public has expressed concern over the fact that the American side has been especially persistent with its unjustified claims against the Soviet Union on the eve of the nuclear and space arms talks in Geneva. The reason behind the administration's "reports" is not hard to discern. Washington wants to poison the atmosphere of the talks from the very beginning, to impede a businesslike and constructive consideration of the problems of vital importance for the whole of mankind.

As the Soviet Foreign Ministry document points out, the U.S.A. must abandon its practice of violating its commitments, and instead direct its efforts towards curbing the arms race. This is the obligation that comes with the Soviet-American agreement to hold talks in Geneva, and it must be strictly and fully observed. The American side must show as much interest in the positive outcome of these talks as the Soviet side does.

TASS NOTES USSR-U.S. PLENARY MEETING IN GENEVA

LD191458 Moscow TASS in English 1458 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Geneva March 19 TASS -- The Soviet and U.S. delegations to talks on nuclear and space arms had a plenary meeting here today.

FRG: ZAGLADIN INTERVIEWED ON GENEVA PROSPECTS

DW181055 Mainz ZDF Television Network in German 1800 GMT 16 Mar 85

[From the "Heute" newscast: "Excerpt" from interview with Vadim Zagladin, first deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, by an unidentified correspondent following Zagladin's conference with the SPD's Egon Bahr in Bonn on 16 March -- recorded]

[Text] [Zagladin] As far as we are concerned, one thing is clear: We want a reduction in weapons and not an arms race. We do not pursue superiority over anyone, either over NATO or over the United States. And we believe that it will be possible to attain this. But how this can be achieved we will have to see, because the U.S. position so far is not quite clear. We will be getting a better picture during the negotiations.

[Question] Do you believe that from this week on disarmament has a better chance?

[Zagladin] I do on principle, because so far the situation was like this: In 1970 there was a political process, the negotiations, and they produced some results. Then this process came to an end. We do have the negotiations on the intermediate-range missiles in Geneva, of course, but they failed. However, the political process is now continuing, and this is a great thing indeed.

REAGAN 'PRESSES' SENATORS TO VOTE FOR MX FUNDS

LD192307 Moscow TASS in English 2301 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 20 TASS -- President Ronald Reagan has delivered a speech at Congress that was filled with demagogy and militarist ambitions. Addressing Republican senators, he pressed them into voting in favour of allocating 1.5 billion dollars for the production of another 21 MX nuclear strategic missiles.

During the meeting, held several hours before the first round of vote in the Senate on the issue, the head of the administration claimed that their backing for the MX programme is the voice in the name of universal peace. He asserted once again that the implementation of the programme would facilitate success at the Geneva talks on nuclear and space armaments. Ronald Reagan in fact accused the legislators who are opposed to the administration's militarist plans of betraying America's national interests and intending, as he put it, to distort the U.S. position at the Geneva talks. Besides the President, the large team of highly placed administration officials engaged in the pressure effort also includes Vice-President George Bush, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, and others. On the whole, as a White House spokesman bluntly said, all possible means were put into use to ensure the outcome of the voting that would suit the White House.

Senate Approves MX Continuation

LD192339 Moscow TASS in English 2333 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 20 TASS -- Bowing to strong pressure from the administration and the military-industrial complex of the United States, the Senate has confirmed the allocation of 1.5 billion dollars under the 1985 financial year budget for the production of another batch of 21 first-strike advanced MX missiles in addition to the same number of missiles that are already being manufactured. 55 senators voted for the continuation of the programme, 45 voted against. The slight majority of votes in favour of "defreezing" the allocations for the MX missiles attests to the extensive opposition of the senators, compelled to take into account national sentiments, to the administration's plans aimed at breaking the existing equilibrium in strategic armaments between the USSR and the United States, at enhancing the threat of nuclear war.

The senators who voted against the MX missile programme pointed in their statements to the groundlessness of the administration's assertions that the missiles were vitally necessary for America's defence. They stressed that the MX is a first-strike weapon whose deployment will only instigate the arms race and enhance the threat of nuclear war. They ridiculed the administration's claims that the MX programme will facilitate progress at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva. The results of the Senate voting and the administrations persistent efforts directed at pushing through Congress the allocations for the MX programme at a time when Soviet-American talks on nuclear and space armaments are held in Geneva fully expose Washington's hypocritic declarations that the United States is "fully determined to achieve reduction, and even elimination of offensive strategic armaments."

CHERNYSHEV BERATES BUSH'S MX FUND ARGUMENTS

LD192014 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1830 GMT 19 Mar 85

["Despite Logic and the Facts" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 19 March (TASS) -- TASS observer on military affairs Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

U.S. Vice President Bush, speaking at the Council on International Relations in Baltimore and calling on U.S. congressmen to approve the program for the production of MX missiles, asserted that their voting "will directly influence the outcome of the talks in Geneva and the prospects of a firm and stable peace." Truly staggering logic -- piling up weapons with the aim of reducing them. Mr Bush believes that the more missiles the United States has designed to inflict a first strike, the "firmer" peace will be. This is particularly surprising when one takes into consideration that the United States until now has refused to follow the Soviet Union's good example and undertake the commitment not to use nuclear weapons first. The very "arguments" used by the vice president are astonishing. In his words, the MX missiles allegedly "will replace obsolete systems," while a large number of earth-sited ICBM's are deployed in the USSR.

Mr Bush puts forward very far-fetched arguments. The whole world knows that every spiral of arms race has always had its roots in American soil and has always been justified by the U.S. Administration's citing the United States lagging behind the USSR. It was the United States which was first to create the atomic bomb, and in the 1950's under the pretext of "lagging behind in bombers" pushed through major allocations and rapidly went ahead with an extensive program of constructing strategic bombers. At the start of the 1960's, a fuss was raised about the United States lagging behind in missiles and they were the first to begin the massive deployment of ground-based ICBM's. Later, it turned out that the number of Soviet bombers had been deliberately overstated by three to four times and the "missile threat" overstated by 15-20 times. The United States was the first to begin a program of constructing atomic submarines with ballistic missiles and was the first to equip the missiles on board them with multiple independently targeted warheads.

And now the vice president is declaring that there is a "lagging behind in ICBM's." In actual fact, on account of the difference in the structure of the USSR and the U.S. strategic nuclear forces, the Soviet Union has more nuclear warheads for ICBM's, while the United States has more for ballistic missiles for submarines and heavy bombers. Naturally, Mr Bush does not talk about this, but all these are facts which cannot be refuted. Furthermore, the U.S. vice president in addressing congressmen did not get around to acquainting himself with the information which they have, and we did not read the draft resolution submitted in the Senate appealing for the establishment of a mutual moratorium on the testing and deployment of new strategic weapons systems by the United States and the Soviet Union for the period of the Geneva talks. The authors of the resolution, Senators Simon [title as received] and Hatfield, express their concern in a letter to Reagan over the fact that the arms race will continue and its escalation will undermine the very aim of the Geneva talks. Senator Simon put forward figures at a press conference which would have been useful for the vice president to know: During the period of the holding of the SALT I talks and SALT II talks alone, the United States increased its arsenal of individually targeted nuclear warheads from 190 to 6,260 units. And now Mr Bush is calling for U.S. nuclear power to be increased during the period of the talks, while at the same time talking about the prospects of a "firm and stable peace."

Another point in Bush's speech should put the world public on the alert. He said that if Congress voted against MX this "would lead to the senseless waste of billions of dollars already invested in the program." Officials in Washington, advertising the "star wars" program, are presently saying that this is merely a "research" program and does not yet contain anything dangerous. But it is clear from the vice president's statement that just as now in connection with the MX program, following the expenditure of $26 billion on this "research," the administration will say: If we do not deploy the antimissile defense system with space-based elements, then this will "lead to the senseless waste" of the resources already spent. Everything set out above once again confirms the danger of the U.S. Administration's present course to tne cause of peace.

IZVESTIYA CITES BLOC MEDIA RESPONSE TO PLENUM

PM191503 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS roundup under the rubric "Across Countries and Continents": "Fraternal Friendship and Cohesion"]

[Text] Sofia -- The tremendous interest aroused among the world public by the results of the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee plenum is very understandable, Bulgaria's RABOTNICHESKO DELO writes. Lenin's party will continue to pursue a consistent domestic and foreign policy. The strategic line of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and improving all aspects of the society's life remains unchanged. This is a new confirmation of the constructive and creative nature of all the tremendous work in the USSR, which fills Soviet people's lives with profound meaning.

The formulation at the plenum of the tasks involved in further strengthening all-around interaction and cooperation between the USSR and the other socialist community countries, which are pursuing a unified course of eliminating the nuclear threat, relaxing tension in the world, and adopting effective measures in the disarmament sphere, is of great importance. The only sensible way out of the dangerous situation that has been created in the world is for an accord to be achieved by opposing forces on the immediate halting of the arms race, primarily the nuclear arms race, on earth and the prevention of an arms race in space; this is the USSR's stance, which has been expressed very clearly. It is the concrete embodiment of the Soviet Union's entire policy -- an honest and clear policy that meets the basic interests of mankind, a policy of the consolidation of peace and security on the planet and of cooperation among peoples. Bulgarian Communists and all our people unanimously support it.

Prague -- The Czechoslovak paper RUDE PRAVO stresses the fraternal friendship and cohesion of the socialist community countries that has been clearly demonstrated at this time. Soviet people, inspired by the results of the extraordinary CPSU Central Committee plenum, the paper notes, are working actively to fulfill the strategic line of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development and improving all aspects of society's life, elaborated at the 26th congress and subsequent plenums. The CPSU resolutely advocates the consistent observance of the principles of Marxism-Leninism in communist building and a creative approach to matters. The CPSU fundamentally poses questions of deepening socialist democracy, enhancing the masses' labor and social activeness, and strengthening discipline, and pays great attention to questions of education and ideology.

Soviet people fervently support the CPSU's policy, which meets their aspirations, and they highly appraise its principledness. The party's strategic line is the main avenue for society's all-around development and the strengthening of the USSR's economic and defense might. Its implementation is a significant contribution to the theory and practice of building developed socialism and to the enhancement of the role and influence of socialism in world affairs.

Communists in Czechoslovakia follow with great attention the CPSU Central Committee's work in preparing a new edition of the CPSU Program and preparing for the 27th party congress. The CPCZ is also preparing for its own congress. The theoretical guidelines and practical decisions of the CPSU on questions of the comprehensive improvement of developed socialism are of great importance for us.

Warsaw -- The extraordinary CPSU Central Committee plenum, Poland's TRYBUNA LUDU stresses, was a vivid confirmation of the continutiy of the CPSU's strategic line, which is being constantly enriched and developed.

A scientific approach, consistency, realism, the constant consideration of new phenomena, and principledness -- these are the features of the work style of the party of Soviet Communists. The plenum results, approved by the CPSU, the Soviet people, and the socialist community countries, have provoked a wide international response. They are a confirmation of the correctness of the party's chosen course and proof of the unity and cohesion of the CPSU and the entire Soviet people in implementing the plans outlined. The CPSU and the Soviet state see it as their first precept to cherish and strengthen to the utmost the fraternal friendship with their closest comrades-in-arms and allies -- the socialist community countries -- and to extend cooperation with the socialist states. The plenum documents will play a big role in the implementation of the ambitious creative plans of the Land of the Soviets.

CEMA FOREIGN TRADE SESSION OPENS IN MOSCOW

LD192203 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1631 GMT 19 Mar 85

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The regular session of the CEMA Standing Committee on Foreign Trade opened in Moscow today. Taking part in it are delegations from the CEMA member-countries, led by ministers of foreign trade and deputy ministers, as well as a delegation from Yugoslavia. Under consideration are the results of work for 1984 and the directions of the committee's work in light of the tasks set at the economic summit conference of CEMA member-countries.

Prospects for cooperation between foreign trade scientific research institutes of the CEMA member-countries in 1985-86 will be considered. Also being discussed are questions of multilateral cooperation between CEMA member-countries in the field of foreign trade, particularly ways to improve organization of mutual trade in spare parts, using computers.

KOLESNICHENKO VIEWS GENEVA TALKS, SDI, LEBANON

PM191151 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 85 Second Edition p 4

[Tomas Kolesnichenko "International Review"]

[Text] Heads of state and government from the majority of foreign countries and many party and public figures gathered this week in Moscow in connection with K.U. Chernenko's death. Their arrival testifies to the CPSU's high international prestige and the USSR's enormous influence in today's world. The meetings held over the last few days between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and other Soviet leaders with representatives of socialist, capitalist, and developing countries confirmed the broad opportunities for constructive work for the benefit of strengthening peace and international security. Further evidence of this was also provided by the Soviet-French talks in Moscow.

Our course in the foreign policy sphere is clear and consistent. It is a course of peace and progress. The world press notes in particular that the course of the Soviet Union's foreign policy is free of the lurches and zigzags often displayed in the policy of capitalist states during leadership changes. The CPSU Central Committee extraordinary plenum confirmed the continuity of the strategic line elaborated by our party's 26th congress and subsequent Central Committee plenums. It has been and remains unchangeable.

Goodwill Is Needed

The world public's attention has focused on the speeches by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee at the party Central Committee extraordinary plenum and the Red Square funeral meeting. Excerpts from these speeches were front-paged by the foreign press. They were broadcast on all television channels in the world. Special attention was given to the declaration that "we proceed from the premise that the right to live under conditions of peace and freedom is the main human right. We reaffirm our readiness to maintain good-neighborly relations with all countries on the basis of the principles of peaceful coexistence and on the basis of equality and mutually advantageous cooperation.

Not a single political observer failed to single out the belief, expressed at the CPSU Central Committee plenum, that when a terrible threat is hanging over mankind, the only reasonable way out of the prevailing situation is an agreement between the opposing forces on immediate cessation of the arms race -- primarily the nuclear arms race -- on earth and its prevention in space. The world's major newspapers noted the high appraisal of the successes achieved in easing international tension in the seventies and the expression of Soviet readiness to participate in the continuation of the process of establishing peaceful and mutually advantageous cooperation among states. West Germany's SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG writes: "The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee declared that the Soviet Union is not striving to gain unilateral advantages over the United States or the NATO countries or to attain military superiority over them. The USSR wishes an end to, and not a continuation of, the arms race and therefore proposes a freeze on nuclear arsenals and the cessation of further missile deployment." The great topicality of this appeal has been proved yet again by the massive wave of protest against the deployment of U.S. first-strike missiles in Europe which has swept through Belgium and other countries on the continent in recent days.

Talks between the Soviet Union and the United States have begun in Geneva. Our approach toward these talks is well known. It was authoritatively reaffirmed in Moscow that we desire a real and major reduction of stockpiled weapons and not the creation of increasingly new weapons systems, whether in space or on earth.

And how about the United States? Does the U.S. side intend to honor all points of the agreement between the USSR and the United States on the issue of the subject and objective of the talks, elaborated during the 7-8 January meeting in Geneva? This question is by no means rhetorical. U.S. news services report that the delegations in Geneva have agreed on strict confidentiality in their work. It is, nevertheless, in the U.S. press that news reports are being "leaked," and these reports cannot but put the international public on guard. Actually, these reports are not news, but rather echoes of public statements made by official spokesman of the U.S. Administration on the eve of the Geneva talks and, to all appearances, they reflect the U.S. stance on these talks. This, incidentally, was actually confirmed by U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz, who declared a few days ago that the United States has no intention of giving up its "star wars" program during the Geneva talks, but is only prepared to conduct a "more extensive dialogue" on this question. Such declarations can hardly help create a propitious atmosphere at the talks. After all, these deliberations are nothing but an attempt to justify the U.S. plans to militarize space which, if implemented, would inevitably lead to a new acceleration of the arms race, a dangerous disturbance of strategic stability, and an increased threat of nuclear war.

Under pressure from critics both inside the United States and far beyond its borders, the "star wars" program is being correspondingly modified and given a propaganda gloss in an attempt to present it as increasingly innocuous and attractive. Stress has recently been laid on the so-called "research" aspect of the problem. After all, people in Washington claim, what is so reprehensible about scientists conducting scientific

TEXT The authors furthermore believe that the first stage of building the ABM layer in space would require no fewer than 100 combat stations and armed artificial satellites for which $43 billion would be necessary.

And another thing: No one has been misled by all the attempts by official Washington to present the "research" work on developing an all-encompassing ABM system as an abstract flight of scientific thought. Here, for example, according to the LOS ANGELES TIMES, is how Sidney Drell, well-known physicist from Stanford University, reacted when asked why the "research" on developing an ABM system should not be compared with the landing of men on the moon. S. Drell's answer was as follows: "The moon did not resist." "The Russians, on the other hand," the newspaper explains, "would start resisting by developing sufficient new missiles to overpower the space-based defense system." In other words, any U.S. "space-based defense" plans will lead to a qualitatively new spiral of the arms race.

It goes without saying that all this directly contradicts the objectives the elaboration of effective agreements aimed precisely at preventing an arms race in space and terminating it on earth and limiting and reducing nuclear arms. This is why the Soviet Union's recent call to reach agreement on an honest and equal basis without attempting to "outplay" the other side and impose one's own conditions on it, an agreement which would help everyone progress toward the desired goal -- the total destruction and prohibition of nuclear weapons forever -- is so topical.

Only such an approach can lead to success at the Geneva talks. The Soviet Union will always respond to goodwill with goodwill and to trust with trust. But everyone must know that we will never compromise the interests of our motherland and its allies.

Whose Tactic Is It?

The name of the small Lebanese village of Al-Zrariyah has extended the tragic list of crimes committed by the aggressors against the civilian population during World War II and the U.S. war in Vietnam. Today this village virtually no longer exists. Israeli tanks have razed it to the ground and the majority of its inhabitants have been wiped out. The interventionists' atrocities are not a fortuitous outburst of anti-Lebanese emotion on Tel Aviv's part but a logical link in the chain of its continuing aggression against that country's people.

The events in Al-Zrariyah and other south Lebanon population centers show the true face of Israel's "love of peace" and Tel Aviv's assertions of its "voluntary" withdrawal of troops from that country. In fact it is a case not of Israel's "peaceful" steps but of the continuation of aggression, only by different means. The point is that the prolonged military occupation of Lebanon has stuck in Tel Aviv's throat. "Israel's decision on a gradual troop withdrawal from Lebanon," the BALTIMORE SUN wrote, "is an admission of defeat after the most catastrophic military adventure in the country's history." You cannot fail to agree with this assessment. However, although it has been obliged to retreat partially, the Israeli military is by no means abandoning the goals it has pursued since the very start of the aggression against Lebanon. Let's mention just the main ones: splitting the country, generating permanent civil strife, creating a pro-Israeli regime there, undermining the Lebanese patriotic forces, destroying the Palestine liberation movement, are finally, securing in that country a military strategic bridgehead for its "big brother," Wasington.

LAST LINE

But what initially looked to be a brief hike round Lebanon's cities and villages has in practice become an exhausting and protracted war which has undermined Israel's own military and economic potential. That is why Tel Aviv again needed the "iron fist" tactic which was once called the "scorched earth" tactic. Inflicting as many deep wounds on Lebanon as possible -- that is what the Israeli cutthroats want as they wipe Lebanese settlements off the face of the earth.

It was to this end that Tel Aviv recently organized a putsch in the Phalange Party, which has been headed by S. Ja'Ja', leader of the pro-Christian, pro-Israeli grouping. The aim of this undertaking is to undermine the country's integrity and to turn part of Lebanon into an Israeli protectorate.

The question arises: How is Washington, which is paying such zealous lip service to "human rights" and laying claim to the role of "guarantor of peace" in the Near East, reacting to all this? Recent events in southern Lebanon are directly related to the U.S. Administration. Suffice it to say that it was the U.S. veto in the Security Council that thwarted the adoption of a resolution (11 votes were cast for it) denouncing Israel's barbaric acts of repression against the Lebanese civilian population. But the public "regrets" over the violence in Southern Lebanon which State Department and White House spokesmen are expressing right and left merely highlight yet again the republican administration's unrestrained hypocrisy.

It is not for nothing that Israel is hoping for direct military support from Washington. It is absolutely clear now why the United States has moved its 6th Fleet ships to the eastern Mediterranean in recent days.

Against this background only the naive can believe in the constructive nature of the new "Near East initiatives" which Washington constantly issues. In one way or another, they will form part of the notorious "Reagan plan." And this plan's thrust has long been known: Helping Israel to preserve what it has seized in its aggressive wars, forcing the Arabs to embark on direct talks with Tel Aviv and to agree to shackling terms, creating a bloc against the progressive Arab forces, and depriving the Palestinians of their lawful rights.

Lebanese opposition to the U.S.-Israeli plans and the rebuff from other progressive Arab forces have ruined the hand of the Israeli aggressors and their patrons. But the struggle has not ended. The lesson of Lebanon for other states is primarily that only the unity of national forces can thwart imperialist plans. Any internecine strife in this region merely helps outside enemies, who seek to warm their hands at the fire of internation [mezhnatsionalnaya] feuding.

You don't have to look far for examples. Who is fuelling the senseless and bloody Iran-Iraq conflict, who is interested in totally destroying the two countries' economies and taking further hundreds of thousands of lives? There is just one answer: those who are seeking a pretext to interfere, those who have declared this region to be a zone of their "vital interests."

As for the Soviet Union, it has always supported and continues to support the Arab peoples' just struggle against Israeli aggression. We advocate a just Near East settlement and lasting peace in the region, including the speediest ending of the Iran-Iraq war. The long-suffering land of the Near and Middle East has long desired peace, and peace should come to it, the sooner the better.

FRG TV INTERVIEWS ANATOLIY GROMYKO, LOMEYKO

DW191227 West Berlin ARD Television Network in German 1915 GMT 18 Mar 85

[From the "Kontraste" program: Interview with Anatoliy Gromyko, member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and son of the Soviet foreign minister, and Vladimir Lomeyko, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, by correspondent Gerd Ruge in The Hague, Netherlands; date not given; Gromyko replies in Russian with superimposed German translation -- recorded]

[Text] [Ruge] A nosy question, Mr Gromyko: Do you know Mr Gorbachev, the new general secretary, and what do you expect of him?

[Gromyko] Yes, I did have the opportunity to get to know Mikhail Sergeyevich. But I cannot say that I know him well. I participated in a number of negotiations he conducted, and I may say that this man has great experience in state and party work. He worked in the Stavropol district, among others, for quite some time. He is an advocate of disarmament, but like our whole Soviet leadership and the Soviet people, he feels that disarmament can be attained only if the principle of equality and equal security is observed, if no one seeks military superiority.

[Ruge] Many people in our country believe that detente policy is dead because over the past several years both great powers have ceased to believe in it. How do you view the matter?

[Gromyko] I do not think that detente has died. The way I see it, detente has become too deeply rooted, especially on European soil. I believe that we, the Europeans in Eastern and Western Europe, must esteem the value of detente highly. We must not allow those people who seek to convince everybody, for whatever reason, that the time of permanent confrontation and a policy of a position of strength has come in international relations to gain the upper hand. If we ponder the issue seriously, we must not allow the philosophy of deterrence to win over the philosophy of peace and peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems. I think that Europe can win in the economic and political respect only under the conditions of detente.

[Ruge] Mr Lomeyko, referring to relations between Soviets and Americans, do you believe that there is great interest in Moscow in improving relations with Washington, perhaps also in connection with the commemoration of the joint victory over Hitlerite Germany 40 years ago?

[Lomeyko] Well, you know, I believe that your question contains several others. It has always been our desire to improve relations with the United States regardless of dates and events. We are honest and consistent in our policy toward the United States, because we proceed from the premise that all of us must live together on this planet. There is no other reasonable alternative.

[Ruge] What other possibilities do you think are left for detente policy in Europe?

[Lomeyko] I believe that one must appreciate and further enhance what has been achieved. And as far as 9 May is concerned -- which you mentioned in your question -- I do not intend to dodge this question. But I must tell you that I was in Leningrad during the blockade; it was by coincidence that I survived the war. I do not bear any hatred for the Germans; to us it was always war against fascism and not against the German people. This year we observe 9 May as the day of the smashing of fascism.

This is why I absolutely fail to understand why the question is discussed as to what kind of day that is. For the people to whom fascism was an enemy, this is clear: It was the day of the smashing of this enemy of civilization.

[Ruge] But do you understand that to the Germans this also was a day that meant the end of the German Reich and, hence, a day that cannot be easily celebrated even if one hated fascism?

[Lomeyko] You see, these are two big but different questions. On 9 May Hitlerite fascism was smashed and further developments in Germany are part of a very long and highly complicated story that cannot be discussed in 2 minutes. I believe you know that yourself. The present situation is this: Two German states, two sovereign states, exist. The more understanding they muster for each other, the more they muster the will to understand each other -- but on the basis of equality and sovereignty and of the respect for each other's sovereignty -- the better will this be also for the relations between the two German states.

SCIENTISTS DISCUSS NUCLEAR WAR AT MOSCOW FORUM

PM191413 Moscow TRUD in Russian 19 Mar 85 p 3

[I. Mikhaylov report: "Responsibility of Scientists"]

[Text] A meeting of the scientific community entitled "Scientists in the Struggle Against the Threat of Nuclear War" was held at the USSR Academy of Sciences Institute of World Economics and International Relations in Moscow yesterday.

Taking part in it were scientific workers of the capital's scientific research institutes and those foreign scientists who were in Moscow for the 48th session of the Executive Council of the World Federation of Scientific Workers.

The meeting was opened by Academician N.G. Basov, vice president of the World Federation of Scientific Workers.

A report entitled "Scientists in the Struggle Against the Threat of Nuclear War" was delivered by Acadmician N.N. Blokhin, president of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences. He stated that with the appearance of the very latest types of arms an increased responsibility rests on scientists, who can see the consequences of nuclear catastrophe better than anyone. Scientists bear a tremendous responsibility for the future, he noted. That is why science must work for the benefit of mankind, not to the detriment of life on earth.

He also described to those present the activity of the Soviet committee "Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War."

The assembly was addressed by Academician P.N. Fedoseyev, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. He noted that the meeting of the scientific community is being held on the eve of the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism. Soviet people, aware of the full horror of war, are struggling for peace and actively participating in the antiwar movement.

The meeting was addressed by Professor J.-M. Legay, president of the World Federation of Scientific Workers. He noted scientific workers' increased responsibility to society.

Those present were also addressed by Academician M.A. Markov, chairman of the Soviet Pugwash committee, and representatives of Moscow's scientific public.

WEINBERGER: U.S. MAY INSTALL MISSILES IN CANADA

LD191622 Moscow TASS in English 1612 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- TASS commentator Vasiliy Kharkov writes: Speaking in a Canadian television interview Monday, U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger pointed out the possibility of the United States installing missile systems, which, he said, would counter enemy cruise missiles, in Canada. The statement, reflecting the Pentagon's intention to use the territory of the U.S. northern neighbour as a deployment site for American nuclear-missile weapons, aroused serious concern among the Canadians. And although American officials hurried to present the Pentagon chief's pronouncement as "purely hypothetical" in nature, those reassuraces did not remove the apprehensions of the Canadians opposed to plans to make their country into a nuclear-missile outpost of the United States.

That such plans do exist is seen from reports by the American mass media themselves. The NEWSWEEK magazine, for example, said recently that Washington had drawn up "contingency plans" to site American nuclear-missile weapons along the entire perimeter of a huge semi-arc starting from Puerto Rico, going further north to Iceland and reaching as far as Spain and Portugal. When the matter at issue is deployment of American nuclear-missile weapons in the teritories of other countries, the Pentagon does not shrink from flouting basic norms of state-to-state relations. It arrogates the right to solve such questions even in circumvention of the legislative bodies of these countries. Under Washington's pressure, for example, American cruise missiles had begun to be brought into Belgium even before the Belgian Parliament was told about it. The operation totally ignored the will of the Belgian population, 80 percent of whom, according to public opinion polls, are strongly against the American missile deployments.

So where are the guarantees that the Pentagon will not use the same tactics of nuclear-missile intervention in the territory of also neighbouring Canada? That the United States is already using Canadian territory for tests of cruise missiles shows that the Pentagon will not burden itself with concern for complying with Canadian sovereignty. Thus, the U.S. defense secretary's statement, far from being hypothetical thinking, stems directly from the incumbent administration's policy of continuing to escalate the nuclear-weapons buildup, which presupposes the preparation of places d'arms for first-strike weapons not only in Western Europe but also in other regions.

In these conditions the Soviet proposals for a freeze on nuclear arsenals, an end to further missile deployments, and real and major cuts in arms stockpiles assume particular significance. It is the acceptance of and action on these proposals rather than development and deployment of ever new weapons systems, whether in outer space or on earth, that could make the world secure against the horrors of a nuclear catastrophe.

KOBYSH REFLECTS ON SUCCESS OF TRIP TO U.S.

PM191152 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 20 Mar 85 p 9

[Vitaliy Kobysh "Observer's Opinion": "USSR-United States: New Opportunities"]

[Text] A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by V.V. Shcherbitskiy, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, and first secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, has just concluded a visit to the United States.

Although the last stage of the delegation's stay in the United States was cut short because of K.U. Chernenko's death and it returned home ahead of schedule, the main program was completed. As one of the experts who accompanied the delegation, I would like to share some of my impressions.

The visit was noteworthy from many points of view. To start with, the first contacts with ordinary Americans revealed that the overwhelming majority of them displayed a friendly attitude toward the USSR Supreme Soviet deputies. How can this be reconciled with the fact that anti-Soviet propaganda continues to rage in the United States and some people are trying to sow hostility and hatred toward our country and toward socialism? There is no simple answer to this question, but more about this later.

On the whole, our deputies were also warmly welcomed in the U.S. Congress. Frank and sometimes very pointed debates took place there, but both representatives and senators intimated in every possible way that they were pleased at the resumption of parliamentary contacts with the Soviet Union (the last visit by a USSR Supreme Soviet delegation to the United States was in 1978). The American side accepted with thanks the official invitation from the USSR Supreme Soviet to Speaker of the House T. O'Neill to visit the Soviet Union next month at the head of a delegation of congressmen.

Things were more complex in the conversations with administration representatives. Let me say at once that the administration ensured wonderful organization in the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation's visit to the United States; everything was precisely and fittingly regulated. Here is a typical detail. V.V. Shcherbitskiy was accorded the privilege of delivering a speech in the so-called "Hall of Sculptures" in Congress (we were told that this was at Speaker O'Neill insistence). The authorities made no secret of the fact that they saw the composition of the delegation as highly serious and the visit as a whole as the most important since 1973.

Unfortunately, what we consider to be most essential -- the U.S. Administration's readiness to take specific steps leading to the solution of the most acute international problems and the improvement of Soviet-American relations -- was not supported by anything specific, at least in the course of the conversations conducted in the United States at various levels, including top level. The American side made unsubstantiated claims that the USSR's alleged "military superiority" is the cause of the accelerated buildup of U.S. military potential and of the preparations to launch R. Reagan's "star wars" program. A deaf ear was turned to reminders that even the U.S. military admits the existence of approximate strategic parity between the USSR and the United States. The impression was given that the U.S. leadership is still trying to present a distorted picture of the USSR's foreign policy, its ideology, and our way of life and that ideological intolerance toward the Soviet system remains the dominant feature of Washington's course.

But quite good things were said on the question of the Geneva talks. In particular, the opinion was expressed that, although in themselves the talks will be difficult, progress at them is possible if the sides move "stage by stage," via the reduction of nuclear arms. It was, however, immediately pointed out that the United States will in any case maintain the "necessary" level of arms to "counter Soviet military power." When the Soviet delegates asked how the word "necessary" is to be interpreted, they did not as as a rule receive an answer. It appeared that the U.S. authorities are setting no limits for themselves in this sphere and that the arms race may become unlimited.

I asked several questions during one of the unofficial conversations between Soviet experts and very high-ranking U.S. State Department officials. Does anyone in the United States seriously believe that this arms race will help the country's security?

Is it not a fact that the postwar military programs implemented by Washington -- and the United States has been the instigator of all rounds of the arms race -- have ultimately led to a situation in which Americans now live in constant fear of the threat of nuclear war? So what is the point of now starting a new militarist program, this time "star wars," which is more than ruinous and extremely dangerous -- for everyone! -- by its very nature?

Propaganda! -- the State Department chiefs protested with one accord, one after another. They were annoyed, and almost offended, mainly, I think, because when the question is posed like this, the arms race, including "star wars," becomes difficult to sell, as they say in America. The subject was changed, since there were more of them than there were of us and, furthermore, our status as guests obliged us to be polite.

But the subject is important, and I believe it provides the answer to the question why, despite the intensive anti-Soviet propaganda, ordinary Americans offered such a friendly reception to the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation. They, like us, do not want a nuclear war. They, like us, believe that a time has come when opportunities are opening up to normalize relations between our countries and avert the threat of war.

U.S. HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE DISCUSSES NEW ZEALAND BAN

LD190801 Moscow TASS in English 0726 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Washington March 19 TASS -- The United States continues to put gross pressure on the Labour government of New Zealand in a demand for a revision of its decision to ban nuclear armed ships of the U.S. Navy from calling at the country's ports.

Special hearings were held in one of the subcommittees of the U.S. House of Representatives to consider this decision of the government of the sovereign state. Paul D. Wolfowitz, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Asian and Pacific affairs, and James A. Kelly, deputy assistant secretary of defence, in their speeches at the hearings made attacks on the New Zealand Government. A high-ranking spokesman of the Pentagon has stated in an ultimatum form that the principled stand of New Zealand is "unacceptable" to the United States. He said that the U.S. military establishment began the study of the entire range of questions of relationships with New Zealand in the military field.

IZVESTIYA ARTICLE MARKS SUN YAT-SEN'S DEATH

PM200947 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by Academician S. Tikhvinskiy, first deputy chairman of the Central Board of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society: "The Behests of Friendship"]

[Text] Dr Sun Yat-sen, outstanding Chinese revolutionary and democrat and great, sincere friend of the Soviet Union, stated in the "Testament" to the Kuomintang party which he dictated and signed: "I have devoted 40 years to the cause of the national revolution with the objective of bringing China freedom and equality. Having accumulated 40 years' experience, I have become profoundly conscious that in order to achieve that objective it is necessary to awaken the masses and wage a struggle in alliance with the peoples of the world who are building relations with us on the basis of equality."

Sun Yat-sen, who saw the Soviet Union as China's only reliable, disinterested friend, wrote a letter to the USSR Central Executive Committee at that time, in which he expressed his innermost feelings. He wrote:

"Dear comrades, members of the USSR Central Executive Committee! I have succumbed to an incurable disease. My thoughts are now turned to you, to my party and my country's future. You head a union of free republics. This union of free republics is the true legacy which the immortal Lenin left to the world of oppressed peoples. Drawing support from this legacy, the peoples languishing under imperialism's oppression will uphold their freedom and secure liberation from the existing system in the world, based since ancient times on slavery, wars, and self-interest.

"I leave a party behind me and I hope that the Kuomintang, completing its historic work to liberate China and other states which have fallen victim to aggression from the imperialist system, will pool its efforts with you...

"Dear comrades! In taking my leave of you, I wish to express my ardent hope -- the hope that the dawn will soon come. The time will come when the Soviet Union, as our best friend and ally, will welcome a mighty and free China, when in the great battle for the freedom of the oppressed nations of the world the two countries will march forward hand in hand and achieve victory.

"Fraternally wishing you all the best, Sun Yat-sen. Beijing, 11 March 1925."

He died 12 March 1925, 60 years ago. Born to a peasant family in south China, Sun Yat-sen embarked on a path of revolutionary struggle against the Manchu autocracy back in 1894, as head of the "Revive China Society," which set itself the goal of overthrowing the foreign Ching dynasty which had ruled in China since 1644 and establishing a republic. In 1905, under the influence of the first Russian revolution which launched the "epoch of Asia's awakening," Sun Yat-sen was advocating the rallying of all revolutionary anti-Manchu organizations and was head of a new revolutionary party, the Chinese Revolutionary United League (Zhongguo Geming Tongmenghui), whose program was based on the "three principles of the people" elaborated by Sun Yat-sen: "nationalism," "people's rights," and "people's livelihood." In practice, these principles amounted to the demand to overthrow the Ching monarchy, establish a parliamentary republic, and nationalize the land.

The United League and affiliated revolutionary organizations repeatedly organized armed attacks on the Ching autocracy in various provinces of south, east, and central China, the last of which, beginning on 10 October 1911 in Wuhang, led to success for the revolutionary forces and forced the Manchu monarchy to abdicate in February 1912. Sun Yat-sen, returning to China from exile, was elected provisional president of the Chinese Republic, but because of the weakness of the Chinese bourgeoisie, which feared a broad revolutionary upsurge by the people's masses, and because of the intervention of the imperialist powers on the side of reaction, he was soon forced to yield the post of president to General Yuan Shikai, head of the northern, Beiyang clique of militarists and placeman of Chinese feudal-comprador reaction and foreign imperialism.

V.I. Lenin and the Russian Bolsheviks followed the development of the revolutionary movement in China with great sympathy. "...A revolutionary democrat, full of nobility and heroism" -- that is how V.I. Lenin described Sun Yat-sen, at the same time noting, along with the revolutionary-democratic nucleus of Sun Yat-sen's political and agrarian program, a number of petit bourgeois utopian elements in his political platform.

During the period of the division of China by various militarist cliques reliant on foreign support, Sun Yat-sen unsuccessfully advocated the country's unification in defense of bourgeois democracy. Only after acquaintance with the revolutionary experience of Soviet Russia and with the assistance of Soviet Communists and the support of the young Chinese Communist Party, whose members either on the Comintern's recommendation or on an individual basis had begun to join the Kuomintang party reorganized by Sun Yat-sen, did the latter manage to begin in earnest to carry out the task of uniting China.

At Sun Yat-sen's request experienced military and political advisers -- M.M. Borodin, V.K. Blyukher, A.I. Cherepanov, and others -- were dispatched to south China, where the revolutionary forces' headquarters was located, and considerable aid was provided in the form of weapons and munitions.

Sun Yat-sen, however, did not live to see the realization of his hopes and aspirations. The resistance of world imperialism, which refused to accept the prospect of China's liberation from its semicolonial status, was too great; the Chinese bourgeoisie was too weak to head the struggle of all the people against the imperialists; and the working class and its Communist Party suffered enormous damage at the hands of the combined forces of internal and imperialist reaction. This all postponed for many years the implementation of the task of uniting the country.

The defeat of German fascism and its far eastern ally, Japanese imperialism, as a result of World War II and the Soviet Armed Forces' successfully completed mission of liberation in Manchuria, a bulkwark of Japanese militarism, created favorable conditions for the Communist Party of China and the People's Liberation Army which it led to put an end to Chiang Kaishek's antipopular clique, to expel the American interventionists from China, to unite the country, and to found the People's Republic of China. On the historical day 1 October 1949 a portrait of Dr Sun Yat-sen was erected on Beijing's Tiananmen Square, and, ever since, it has decorated the capital's central square on China's national holiday. Beijing's central park has been named for Sun Yat-sen, as has the university in the city of Guangzhou. Every year China marks the memorable dates associated with his name.

Our country carefully preserves the memory of the courageous Chinese revolutionary and great and sincere friend of the Land of the Soviets. Sun Yat-sen's selected works were published here in 1966 in a Russian translation in connection with the 100th anniversary of his birth.

The Main Oriental Literature Editorial Board of the Nauka Publishing House will soon be publishing a second, enlarged edition of the Chinese revolutionary democrat's selected works. Each year the Central Board of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society and its grass-roots organizations celebrate memorable dates connected with Sun Yat-sen's life and work.

Soviet people fervently support the CPSU's principled and consistent line toward normalizing relations with the PRC. As the CPSU Central Committee March (1985) Plenum pointed out, the Soviet Union would like to considerably improve relations with the PRC and believes that this is perfectly feasible if the PRC reciprocates.

Commemorative Meeting Held

PM191653 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "The Behests of Friendship"]

[Text] On 15 March the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Ties With Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society held a soiree in memory of outstanding Chinese revolutionary democrat, Sun Yat-sen.

Addressing the meeting, Academician S.L. Tikhvinskiy, first deputy chairman of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society Central Board, noted Sun Yat-sen's great contribution to the national liberation movement in China, which developed under the influence of Great October.

The soiree was attended by members of the Central Board and activists of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Society and also by Li Zewang, PRC ambassador to the USSR.

FURTHER ON COMMEMORATION OF MPA ANNIVERSARY

Tretyak Delegation's Activities

PM191516 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Mar 85 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report under general heading "On the Anniversary"]

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, 18 Mar -- J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Mongolian People's Great Hural Presidium, today received the Soviet military delegation headed by Army General I.M. Tretyak which is here to participate in celebrations marking the 64th anniversary of the formation of the Mongolian People's Army [MPA].

Taking part in the meeting, which was held in a warm and friendly atmosphere, were D. Sodnom, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers; T. Namsray, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the MPRP Central Committee; and other officials.

A ceremonial meeting of representatives of the Mongolian public, working people, and servicemen from the capital's garrison devoted to the 64th anniversary of the MPA's formation was held in Ulaanbaatar today. J. Batmonh, other officials of the Republic, and the Soviet military delegation headed by Army Gen I.M. Tretyak took part in it.

Lieutenant General C. Purebdorj, chief of the MPA General Staff, noted in delivering his report that MPA servicemen vigilantly guard the motherland's sacred borders and are prepared to defend the historic gains of socialism at any moment.

To mark the holiday wreaths were laid at the tomb of D. Suhebaatar and H. Choybalsan and at the monument to Soviet servicemen on Mount (Zayan).

Mongolian Attache Hosts Reception

PM191522 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Mar 85 Second Edition p 3

[TASS report under general heading "On the Anniversary"]

[Text] Major General R. (Gunchin-ish), military attache at the Mongolian Embassy in the USSR, held a reception 18 March to mark the 64th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Army.

Present at the reception were Marshal of Engineering Troops N.F. Shestopalov, USSR deputy defense minister; Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and other generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces.

T. Gurbadam, Mongolian ambassador to the USSR, was also present.

Military attaches from foreign embassies in the USSR were among the guests.

MOSCOW MEETING MARKS DPRK-USSR TREATY ANNIVERSARY

SK181220 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Dear listerners: 17 March marks the 36th anniversary of the conclusion of the Soviet-DPRK agreement on economic and cultural cooperation. A celebration meeting marking this anniversary was held at the Hall of Friendship With Foreign Peoples in Moscow yesterday. The meeting was attended by representatives of public circles in the Soviet capital city; activists of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society; officials of the DPRK Embassy in the Soviet Union, including Kwon Hui-kyong, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary; and Korean students studying at colleges in Moscow.

Comrade Proday-Voda, deputy minister of the Soviet Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, who is vice chairman of the Soviet-Korean Friendship Society Central Committee, addressed the participants in the meeting. He said:

[Begin recording in Russian, fading into Korean translation] The agreement on economic and cultural cooperation based on complete equality and reciprocity has served as a firm foundation for the development of Soviet-Korean friendship. This important agreement has provided a beginning for expanding multisided relations and cooperation between our two countries in the economic, trade, and cultural fields on the basis of plans. [end recording]

Comrade Proday-Voda went on to note with satisfaction that the relations between the Soviet Union and the DPRK were expanded, consolidated, and enriched with new contents in the past.

These relations conform to the interests of socialism and of strengthening international security and contribute to increasing the efficiency of labor production in our two countries and more effectively implementing the tasks of the people's economy put forth by the 26th CPSU Congress and the 6th WPK [Workers Party of Korea] Congress.

The speaker noted that the meetings between party and state leaders of the two countries play an important role in developing the relations between the Soviet Union and Korea. The visit to the Soviet Union by the DPRK party and state delegation led by Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the WPK and president of the DPRK, last year has served as an important step in consolidating our friendship and has opened a new vista for developing the cooperation between the two countries in various fields for the welfare of the Soviet and Korean peoples, for opposing the imperialists' aggressive schemes, and for guaranteeing peace and security in the Far East, Asia, and the entire world.

In conclusion, Comrade Proday-Voda said: In celebration of the 36th anniversary of the conclusion of the Soviet-DPRK agreement on economic and cultural cooperation, the Soviet people wish the fraternal Korean people new success in socialist construction, in the fulfillment of tasks put forth by the Sixth WPK Congress, and in the struggle for the fatherland's peaceful reunification.

Comrade Kwon Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union, made a speech at the celebration meeting:

[Begin recording] Dear comrades: Today, the peoples of Korea and the Soviet Union are meaningfully marking the 36th anniversary of the conclusion of the DPRK-USSR agreement on economic and cultural cooperation.

On this occasion, I express my deep gratitude to you for inviting us to a soiree for this event and for having just made warm remarks concerning our party and our people. The agreement on economic and cultural cooperation between our two countries was concluded 36 years ago. This was an important event which had great significance in the development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Korea and the Soviet Union. This agreement, based on complete equality, respect for sovereignty, noninterference in internal affairs, and comradely cooperation, has made a great contribution to further consolidating and developing the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between Korea and the Soviet Union.

For the past 36 years, since the conclusion of this agreement, the relations of friendship and cooperation in various fields between our two countries have continued to develop favorably. [end recording]

The DPRK ambassador continued to discuss, in detail, the results of the fulfillment of the Second 7-Year Plan for the development of the people's economy of the Republic. He talked about the successes the (?working people) of People's Korea have achieved in socialist construction during the past 36 years. Comrade Kwon Hui-kyong said that the equal, reciprocal cooperation with the fraternal Soviet Union has played a great role in achieving such successes. He went on to talk about the efforts of the DPRK for settling the situation on the Korean peninsula and reunification. In conclusion, Comrade Kwon Hui-kyong said:

[Begin recording] Our party's consistent policy is to further develop relations of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union. The peoples of Korea and the Soviet Union are class (?allies) and close revolutionary comrades in arms who have firmly united through the joint struggle to [words indistinct] Korean-Soviet friendship based on the relationship of class alliance and on comradely friendship is being further consolidated and developed through the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's historic visit to the Soviet Union. In conclusion, I wish the fraternal Soviet people greater success in the struggle to implement the decisions of the 26th party congress and of subsequent (?party Central Committee plenary meetings). Long live the eternal fraternal friendship and unity between the peoples of Korea and the Soviet Union! [end recording]

IZVESTIYA CITES NODONG SINMUN ON 'TEAM SPIRIT'

PM181534 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading "Provocative Maneuvers"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 17 Mar -- The stepping up of the U.S.-Korean "Team Spirit-85" maneuvers is leading to further fueling of tension on the Korean peninsula and is significantly exacerbating the situation in Asia and the world, NODONG SINMUN, organ of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee, writes in a commentary. These maneuvers serve the aims of whipping up war hysteria and preparing for the launching of nuclear war. They have nothing in common with the U.S. claim that this adventure is "defensive" in character, the newspaper writes.

The annual "Team Spirit" maneuvers are an integral part of U.S. imperialism's aggressive policy in Asia. Each year the scale of this provocative demonstration of strength grows. Suffice it to say that this year 200,000 servicemen and warplanes and warships, including some with nuclear capability, are taking part in them. Blatant saber rattling on the DPRK borders threatens the security of the countries of the Pacific Ocean and cannot fail to cause anger and indignation to the progressive world public, the commentary says. The world demands that the warmongers stop their criminal provocations and leave the Korean peninsula, NODONG SINMUN stresses.

GORBACHEV'S TALKS WITH PAKISTAN'S ZIA VIEWED

LD191814 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Aleksandr Korolev commentary]

[Text] The general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, Mikhail Gorbachev, last week met in the Kremlin with the Pakistani president, Ziaul Haq. Their conversation dealt primarily with the situation around Afghanistan. The Soviet side gave a sincere and principled assessment of Pakistani Government policy on this issue. It is clear, of course, why the Soviet leader concentrated on this issue at his meeting with the Pakistani president. The armed intervention being carried on against Afghanistan with the help of bands of mercenaries has notably worsened the situation in the whole region. As a result another dangerous hotbed of tension has appeared in Asia, with Pakistani participation at that.

The Pakistani authorities cannot deny the well-known fact that aggressive actions against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan are carried out first of all from their territory. Pakistan has turned into the main springboard of the American CIA, as the American press now admits, to conduct its largest secret operation intended to undermine the people's government in Afghanistan. For this purpose CIA agents have set up in Pakistan 117 camps and bases where mercenary bands are formed and trained under the supervision of American instructors. Every year more American weapons go through Pakistani territory to the camps of Afghan counterrevolutionaries. This year U.S. military aid to the counterrevolutionaries will be worth $280 million

At the same time the Pakistani authorities, obviously under pressure from Washington, are evading an active search for a political solution of the situation around Afghanistan. This is evident, for instance, from preparations that have been going on for the next round of Afghan-Pakistani talks to begin in Geneva. In other words, if we assess the situation around Afghanistan in a sincere and objective way we cannot but mention Pakistani participation in the unlawful actions directed against a neighboring Muslim country. We would like to repeat that they are unlawful actions, because the enemies of Afghanistan are trying to deny it the inalienable right to self-determination. It is a fact that should not be overlooked when it comes to prospects for the development of Soviet-Pakistani relations.

At a meeting with President Ziaul Haq the Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, pointed out that this cannot but damage relations between the two countries. What can and must be the alternative to such an undesirable course of events? Well, Pakistan and its supporters must terminate their hostile actions against Afghanistan, a country that has a right to peace and freedom along with all other nations. This is what the Soviet Union is pressing for. It helps the people of Afghanistan to uphold their independence and revolutionary gains and energetically supports the peace initiatives of the Afghan Government to achieve a political solution. This principled stand was reaffirmed when Mikhail Gorbachev met with the chairman of the Afghan Revolutionary Council Babrak Karmal. The two leaders expressed the view that a stop to armed intervention and any other kind of interference in Afghan affairs would clear the way for promoting peace and stability in Asia. for which the Soviet Union has been pressing.

ZIA'S RESTORATION OF CONSTITUTION CRITICIZED

PM191225 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent A. Akhmedzyanov report: "Constitution Without Civil Rights"]

[Text] Delhi -- Pakistani President Ziaul Haq has "solemnly" announced the restoration of the country's 1973 Constitution, which he himself had earlier revoked.

However, the restored constitution lacks 27 articles that contained the basic civil rights and regulated the appointment of provincial governors and the chief commissioner for elections.

Speaking at a press conference, President Ziaul Haq promised that these articles of the Constitution will be restored "as soon as the state of martial law imposed 8 years ago is lifted." But no one knows when that will be. Amendments made by Ziaul Haq to the Constitution give him the right to appoint and replace the prime minister and provincial governors and the top Army command and to dissolve parliament. The president becomes supreme commander of the state's Armed Forces.

The "restoration" of the 1973 Constitution, presented by General Ziaul Haq as a democratic act and a concession to opposition demands, is in fact nothing but another piece of camouflage aimed at preserving the military dictatorship in the country, the Indian newspapers write.

DRA PROTESTS PAKISTAN CLAIMS OF AIR ATTACK

LD200938 Moscow TASS in English 0759 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Kabul, March 19 (CTK correspondent) -- The Afghan Foreign Ministry voiced a resolute protest here today against the unfounded assertion of the Pakistani authorities that the Afghan Armed Forces made an air attack against Pakistani border regions, the BAKHTAR new agency has announced. The protest note of the Foreign Ministry stated that the Pakistani authorities accuse Afghanistan of bombing the Pakistani regions of Arando and Domandi. Afghanistan resolutely denied these slanders and called on Pakistan to halt the demagogic anti-Afghan campaign which could only lead to increasing tension on the Afghan-Pakistani borders, the document pointed out.

U.S. TO SUPPLY AFGHAN REBELS WITH NEW MISSILES

LD200929 Moscow TASS in English 0801 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Kabul, March 19 (CTK correspondent) -- The U.S. Administration strives to further extend the undeclared war against Afghanistan and strengthen a hostile campaign aimed against the Afghan people and their revolution, the Afghan news agency BAKHTAR said in a statement published here today.

According to documents gained by the Afghan authorities, Washington intends to supply anti-Afghan terrorist organizations with new ground-to-air missiles by way of Pakistan. It was proved by a letter in which the leadership of the Afghan subversive group Ittihade Islami asks for instructions in training for operating new U.S. weapons. Another document showed that the transport of the weapons is to be carried out under the supervision of eight 'advisers' from the United States, two from France and one from Saudi Arabia.

The Afghan authorities have gained evidence that Pakistani agents were to arouse unrest in Afghanistan and especially in Kabul on March 20, during the celebrations of the Afghan new year. Afghan bandits joined vast reprisals against the opponents of the Pakistani military regime at the time of February's elections to the Pakistani parliament.

Afghanistan is well aware that the Reagan administration and the Islamabad military regime prepare new attacks against the April Revolution. These intentions arouse deep embitterment of all Afghan people who are determined to hamper any plans of the enemies of freedom and democracy, the statement stressed.

KAPITSA ATTENDS UN MEETING IN THAILAND

LD200458 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0304 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] The 41st session of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific opened in Bangkok, Thailand. Representatives of approximately 40 states are participating. The Soviet delegation is headed by Kapitsa, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs. The session's agenda includes discussion on the prospects of economic and social development in this region of more than 2.5 billion people, as well as questions related to expanding cooperation among the countries of the Asian-Pacific region.

REGIONAL SITUATION, PROSPECTS FOR PEACE DISCUSSED

PM191511 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 10, Mar 85 pp 7-9

[Yu. Kuzmichev article: "Futile Dreams and Realistic Normalization Efforts"]

[Text] The People's Republic of Kampuchea is, with every passing year, advancing more and more confidently along its chosen road of progressive social and economic transformation. Its successes in virtually all the vitally important spheres are astounding, and this helps strengthen the young republic's security and defence.

In recent weeks units of the People's Revolutionary Army of Kampuchea, with the assistance of Vietnamese volunteers, liquidated virtually all the strongholds of the Pol Potists in the northwestern part of the country, thus completing the expulsion of these bands from Kampuchean territory. The enemies of the Kampuchean people have thus lost all their bases in the remote areas of Kampuchea along the border with Thailand from which they launched their bandit raids.

The reaction to the operations carried out by the republic against its enemies is varied both in Southeast Asia and elsewhere. Whereas the friends of the Kampuchean people view their military successes as an earnest of further stabilization of the situation and as incontrovertible evidence of the viability of people's power, the country's adversaries see them in quite a different light. To put it mildly, they are displeased with the Kampuchean defenders' success in curbing the attempts by the anti-popular bands to entrench themselves on Kampuchean soil. The dream of restoring the misanthropic Pol Pot regime in Kampuchea and regaining lost positions in order to carry out far-reaching plans of expansion in Southeast Asia is crumbling. It is for good reason that both Washington and Beijing lament most of all the military defeats of the Khmer counterrevolution: the "coalition" of enemies of the Kampuchean people, nurtured and armed by the U.S. and China, has found itself on the brink of total disintegration.

Washington and Beijing are trying to prevent the complete rout of their Indochina agents, to avoid the disappearance of the artificially inflated "Kampuchean question" and to preserve tension in Southeast Asia as a pretext for interference. The U.S. has already voiced its "concern" over the operations carried out by the defenders of People's Kampuchea. The clamour has been resumed about a "threat" to Thailand from its Indo-China neighbours. China is concentrating troops near Vietnam's northern border, and the shelling of Vietnamese territory by Chinese artillery has been stepped up. Open threats against Vietnam are issuing from Beijing Norodom Sihanouk has blurted it out: The leaders have assured him that in the event of a total rout of the anti-Kampuchean "coalition" China will invade Vietnam.

ASEAN (the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, which is made up of Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, Thailand and Brunei) has again been drawn into the dispute.

The foreign ministers of the Six assembled in Bangkok in February and came up with a new statement on the "Kampuchean question." This document is a model of hypocrisy, distortion of facts and contradiction.

For instance, it speaks of "solidarity with Thailand in the face of external provocations" and support of its "legitimate right to self-defence." The question begs: Who is threatening Thailand?

In reality things are quite different: The territory of Thailand has been turned into a springboard for espionage and subversive activity against the countries of Indo-China. The Thai Armed Forces seize Lao villages, constantly violate Kampuchean borders and shell its border areas. It is this "exercise of the right to self-defence" that ASEAN clearly supports.

The statement by the ASEAN foreign ministers speaks of the "resilience and determination of the Khmer freedom-fighters." It is really too much to speak of the "resilience and determination" of Norodom Sihanouk and his followers, who have preferred the comfort of residences abroad to the "inconveniences" of the battlefield, or to describe Pol Pot and Ieng Sary, who have been condemned by the world community for genocide against their own people, as "freedom-fighters."

The authors of the document contradict themselves (not to mention the facts) when they accuse Vietnam of "continued pursuit of a military solution in Kampuchea" while simultaneously declaring "strong support and assistance" for the "political and military struggle" of the Pol Potists and their crowd. What should one believe? The official ASEAN declarations about a zone of peace and a nuclear-free zone in Southeast Asia, or the far from peaceable statement from Bangkok? Its entire tone leaves no doubt about who dictated it and on whose instruction ASEAN undertook its latest hostile act in respect of the Indo-China countries.

Such statements, which contradict the officially proclaimed aims and principles of ASEAN, give rise to displeasure and growing protest in the countries of the Six themselves. The peoples of Southeast Asia, writes the newspaper Indonesia Times, expected the ASEAN foreign ministers' conference to make some progress in the search for a solution to the so-called "Kampuchean question," but there is no justification to speak of any progress. Voicing similar sentiments, another Jakarta newspaper, Merdeka, noted recently: "While having proclaimed the need to create a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality in Southeast Asia, ASEAN in reality is pursuing a policy of confrontation, is whipping up tension and instability.... By all indications, ASEAN has become an instrument of China in 'sparking off a second revolution in Indo-China,' and a lever of Washington for promoting a policy directed against Vietnam." A stinging but, undeniably, generally fair assessment. Everyone who indulges in such dreams should realize that they are futile.

At their first conference, held five years ago, the foreign ministers of Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea formulated the foreign policy aims of their countries as follows: To establish relations of firm friendship and cooperation with all states, above all in Southeast Asia, on the basis of mutual respect of independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and a negotiated solution of outstanding issues. At the same time readiness was expressed to sign non-aggression pacts with all neighbouring states and to start an exchange of views with ASEAN countries on the question of turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, independence, freedom, neutrality, stability and prosperity.

In the years that have passed, this principled line, which remains unchanged to this day, has been backed up by a number of constructive initiatives, among them proposals on a regional conference to discuss the existing problems and tackle the questions of a zone of peace in Southeast Asia, on political dialogue between the two groups of states to improve the situation in the region, and on elaborating principles of relations between the countries of Indo-China and ASEAN.

Guided by their striving for peace and good-neighbourship the three countries of Indo-China are patiently searching for a way to normalize relations with Thailand. Kampuchea has set out a number of concrete proposals. Were they to be taken up, they would liquidate tension on the Kampuchean-Thai border and allow for the solution of the problem of the Khmer refugees. The efforts of Laos to achieve a settlement of the situation provoked last year by Thailand's aggesssive actions are widely known.

In short, were it not for outside interference, the problems existing in that part of the world could have been solved long ago. Given, of course, good will on the part of all sides. As for Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea, they are not wanting in this respect. They are always ready to support any efforts by any country of the region undertaken with the aim of resolving outstanding differences.

This approach, for instance, was expressed at the 10th conference of the foreign ministers of Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam, held in January in Ho Chi Minh City, which welcomed Malaysia's proposal to create a nuclear-free zone in Southeast Asia and supported discussions on both this proposal and the earlier formulated concept of a zone of peace, freedom and neutrality without waiting for a "Kampuchean settlement."

At the same time Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea expressed their readiness to open talks with all interested sides with the aim of settling the situation around Kampuchea. In the opinion of the three countries any settlement should include the political and military banishment of Pol Pot's criminal gang and the withdrawal of the Vietnamese volunteers from Kampuchea on condition that the Kampuchean people's right to self-determination and to life without the threat of a resumption of Pol Pot's genocide is observed. This is quite attainable: nobody in fact supports Pol Pot and his clique, with the exception of their foreign masters and reactionary elements in Thailand's ruling circles. As for other Khmer emigre groups belonging to the notorious "coalition government," once they dissociated themselves fully from Pol Pot, they could "play a certain role in Kampuchea's national life." This has been repeatedly stated by Kampuchean Foreign Minister Hun Sen, in particular at the recent conference in Ho Chi Minh City.

In view of the successes of the young republic and the irreversibility of the positive social, political and economic processes taking place in it, the foreign ministers expressed their confidence that in five to ten years from now all Vietnamese volunteers will have left Kampuchea. The "Kampuchean problem," as it is interpreted in some quarters, will disappear by itself without any special settlement.

Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea confirmed their desire to work for Southeast Asia to be turned into an area of peace, good-neighbourship and cooperation in which all states, regardless of their social system, would observe the generally recognized principles of peaceful coexistence. As for external forces, they should, as the foreign ministers stated, respect the national rights of the region's peoples, above all the right to a peaceful life, and refrain from interfering in the affairs of Southeast Asia.

The proposals put forward by Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea on improving the situation in Southeast Asia are supported by the Soviet Union, the other countries of the socialist community, and many non-aligned countries. They have been received with understanding by representatives of a number of Western countries, too. The U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar described the proposals of the foreign ministers of the three Indo-China countries as a good basis for other interested countries to get a better understanding of the stand taken by Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea on regional problems.

What is needed is for these interested countries to respond with good will.

GDR FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES IN MOSCOW 19 MAR

LD191420 Moscow TASS in English 1416 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- Oskar Fischer, member of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SUPG), minister of foreign affairs of the German Democratic Republic (GDR), arrived in Moscow today for a visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the airport he was met by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and by other officials. Among the welcoming party were Egon Winkelmann, the ambassador of the GDR to the USSR, and diplomatic staff of the embassy.

BILD REPORTS SOVIET FIGHTER CRASH IN GDR

DW191023 Hamburg BILD in German 19 Mar 85 p 8

[Unattributed report: "'GDR': MIG-21 Crashes Into Apartment Building -- Deaths?"]

[Text] A MIG-21 jet fighter has crashed into a 5-story house in Cottbus ("GDR"), almost completely destroying the building (an educational center for students). The People's Police immediately cordoned off the entire area.

There is no word about deaths or injuries and no information about the cause of the accident or the origin of the aircraft. "GDR" newspapers have not reported the crash. Western visitors coming from Cottbus have reported the accident. Some 800 schoolchildren, who were attending classes near the scene of the crash, were unhurt.

SOKOLOV MEETS CSSR DEFENSE MINISTER ON ARRIVAL

LD200923 Moscow TASS in English 0916 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 20 TASS -- The Minister of National Defense of Czechoslovakia Colonel General Milan Vaclavik arrived in Moscow for an official friendly visit today at the invitation of the USSR minister of defense, Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov. He was met at the airport by the USSR Defense Minister Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov and other officials.

FURTHER ON FILIPOV OFFICIAL VISIT TO USSR

Meets With Tikhonov

LD191525 Moscow TASS in English 1508 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Nikolay Tikhonov today had talks in the Kremlin with member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Grisha Filipov.

Nikolay Tikhonov and Grisha Filipov exchanged information on the fulfillment of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 12 BCP Congress, on the social and economic development of the Soviet Union and Bulgaria, on the work done in the USSR and Bulgaria in preparation for the regular party congresses.

It was noted with satisfaction that Soviet-Bulgarian relations, based on the immutable principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian socialist internationalism, are developing successfully and dynamically in the interests of the peoples of both countries and the entire socialist community.

In the course of the talks the heads of government discussed in detail the prospects of further expanding and perfecting Soviet-Bulgarian economic, scientific and technical cooperation, paying special attention to questions of raising its efficiency.

The decisions of the economic conference of CMEA member states at summit level open up new favourable prospects for deepening the cooperation of the fraternal socialist countries. The USSR and Bulgaria will take an active part in the implementation of these decisions directed at further strengthening the unity and cohesion of the fraternal countries and consolidating their international positions.

The participants in the talks noted the importance of making maximum use of the advantages of the international socialist division of labour on the basis of coordinating economic policy and jointly working out the strategy of further deepening the economic integration of the two countries. The fulfillment of this task will be facilitated by the drafted programme of economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Bulgaria for the period till the year 2000. It will accord with the interests of developing production in inter-connected branches of the Soviet Union's and Bulgaria's economy and of cooperation in the most promising directions of scientific-technical progress. It is intended to take measures to perfect the organisational and economic forms of scientific-technical ties.

The work by planning bodies of the two countries to coordinate economic development plans of the USSR and Bulgaria for the period of 1986-1990 was studied and approved.

The exchange of views confirmed the shared positions of socialist countries, their economic and defensive might. Their interaction in international affairs within the framework of the Warsaw Treaty acquire special importance in conditions of the serious complication of the situation in the world through the fault of the imperialist forces headed by the United States.

The Soviet Union and Bulgaria together with other fraternal socialist countries will do everything possible to achieve a decisive turn towards arms limitation and reduction on the basis of strict observance of the principle of equality and equal security. The big importance of the talks between the USSR and the United States on the complex of questions concerning space and nuclear arms, that were started recently in Geneva and whose aim, just as of efforts in the field of arms limitation and reduction in general, should be the liquidation of nuclear arms fully and everywhere, was stressed in this context. The hope was expressed that the American side will display a constructive and realistic approach at the talks.

The talks passed in a heartfelt, comradely atmosphere, in a spirit of fraternal friendship and mutual understanding.

Relations Assessed

LD191539 Moscow TASS in English 1527 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, March 19, TASS -- "We note with satisfaction that Soviet-Bulgarian relations are consistently developing according to an ascending trend and that not only party and state bodies, economic and public organizations, but also millions of Soviet and Bulgarian working people are taking an increasingly more active and direct part in this important process", member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Nikolay Tikhonov said today at a luncheon in the Kremlin held by the Government of the USSR in honour of member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgraian Communist Party, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria Grisha Filipov.

"In the course of the talks", Nikolay Tikhonov said, "we devoted the main attention to questions of further deepening Soviet-Bulgarian cooperation. It is developing intensively and fruitfully in full accordance with the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of Bulgaria. The tested alliance of our fraternal parties, their political and ideological unity based on inviolable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism is an earnest of this".

"Peaceful construction, the further raising of the living standards of our peoples is our main aim. For this reason in international affairs the efforts of socialist countries are directed at preventing the threat of war, ensuring the natural right of every people to peaceful life, to independently determining the road of its development. At the March Plenary Meeting of the CPSU Central Committee the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev said that 'in the field of foreign policy our course is clear and consistent. It is the course of peace and progress'. The resolve of our party and state to strengthen in every way fraternal friendship and cooperation with countries of the socialist community, our closest associates and allies, was confirmed with new force at the plenary meeting. This is our general course and we will never depart from it".

"We want to assure our Bulgarian comrades", Nikolay Tikhonov said, "that we will further work in the name of the flourishing of Soviet-Bulgarian friendship, in the interests of the peoples of the Soviet Union and Bulgaria, the entire socialist community".

Filipov Speaks at Luncheon

LD191922 Moscow TASS in English 1839 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- "Our visit to the great Soviet country has been connected with discussion of questions of further developing and deepening cooperation between our countries," Grisha Filipov, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, said at a Kremlin luncheon today, which was given by the Soviet Government in his honor.

"Also this time," Grisha Filiposv said, "the sides have demonstrated a full identity of views and shared desire to make our cooperation still more diversified and effective. We see our efforts in this direction as a contribution not only to bilateral Bulgarian-Soviet relations but also to the implementation of those major multilateral accords that were reached in Moscow during the economic summit conference of the CMEA countries.

These actions are directed at further deepening socialist economic integration, which meets our common interests, and serves the cause of strengthening the economic might of our countries, the entire socialist community."

"We have to solve these questions," Grisha Filipov said, "in a complex international situation. This requires from us even greater cohesion and even closer interaction for our policy of enhancing peace and security to be consistently translated into reality and make an impact to the benefit of improving the international situation."

Correction to Talks

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Bulgaria's Filipov Begins Talks With Tikhonov," published in the 19 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page F 4, second paragraph, lines two through four:

... Council of Ministers; Comrade Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, chairman of the USSR Gosplan; Talyzin, deputy chairman ... (supplying additional line)

USSR-BULGARIAN TREATY ANNIVERSARY MARKED

LD190544 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0100 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] There is practically no sphere of life in which the Soviet Union and People's Bulgaria are not developing multilateral contacts or carrying out fruitful exchanges in experience in socialist and communist construction. This was stressed at a meeting in Moscow on 18 March devoted to the 37th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Aid between the USSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The conclusion of this treaty, noted those who addressed the meeting, has become an event of historical significance in the annals of the relations between our peoples. Based upon the principles of socialist internationalism, it has laid a sound foundation of political, economic, and cultural cooperation in the name of constructing socialism and communism, and consolidating universal peace.

COMPARISON OF ROMANIAN-SOVIET TALKS IN MOSCOW

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 20 March 1985 in its First Edition carries on pages 1 and 4 a TASS report under the general heading "In a Friendly Atmosphere" which has been compared to the TASS English version published on page F 1 of the 19 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, revealing the following variations:

First paragraph, line one, PRAVDA omits dateline;

Same paragraph, line six, PRAVDA has "18 March" instead of "today";

Last paragraph, line two, PRAVDA adds additional passage:

Also taking part in the meeting were:

On the Soviet side -- N.K. Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan; N.V. Talyzin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and the USSR's permanent CEMA representative; N.D. Komarov, first deputy minister of foreign trade; B.I. Aristov, USSR deputy foreign minister; and Ye.M. Tyazhelnikov, USSR ambassador to Romania;

On the Romanian side -- I. Constantinescu, first vice chairman of the Romanian State Planning Committee; C. Stanca, Romanian deputy minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation; and T. Dudas, Romanian ambassador to the USSR.

POLAND'S JARUZELSKI HAILS SOVIET ROLE IN WAR

PM191440 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Mar 85 Second Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Ceremony in Warsaw"]

[Text] Warsaw, 18 Mar -- A ceremony has been held in Poland to mark the 40th anniversary of the battles to liberate Poland's northern lands from the fascist invaders. W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish Council of Ministers, took part in the ceremony.

Speaking in the hamlet of Miroslawiec at a meeting with representatives of the public, Polish People's Army servicemen, and war veterans, W. Jaruzelski stressed the courage and heroism of the Soviet and Polish servicemen who fought side by side to liberate the country's northern regions. In the year of celebrations for the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism and the unification [prisoyedineniye] of the western and northern lands with Poland, he said, we pay tribute to those who gave their lives in the struggle against the common enemy -- Hitlerite fascism.

The Soviet Union, the Polish leader stated, is the reliable guarantor of Poland's independence and security and the inviolability of its state borders. We will continue to strengthen the alliance and cooperation with the USSR. The duty of the PZPR and the Polish state is to struggle actively to strengthen the cause of peace and disarmament and to serve the interests of Polish working people.

W. Jaruzelski laid a wreath at the obelisk erected in honor of Soviet and Polish servicemen and participated in the opening ceremony of a museum of military glory.

TANJUG ON GORBACHEV MEETING WITH SFRY LEADERS

LD132113 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1922 GMT 13 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow, 13 Mar (TANJUG) -- The SFRY delegation to Konstantin Chernenko's funeral -- Veselin Djuranovic, president of the Presidency; Ali Sukrija, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium; Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs; and Milojko Drulovic, Yugoslav ambassador in Moscow -- met in Moscow today with Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. On the Soviet side, the meeting was attended by Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy premier and minister of foreign affairs; and by Konstantin Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Veselin Djuranovic and Ali Sukrija again expressed, on behalf of the SFRY and the LCY leadership, Communists, working people, and all nations and nationalities of Yugoslavia, deep condolences in connection with Konstantin Chernenko's death.

President of the SFRY Presidency Djuranovic and President of LCY Central Committee Presidium Sukrija then congratulated Mikhail Gorbachev on his election as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. In the talks held on the occasion in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, views were exchanged on Yugoslav-Soviet relations and international problems.

Both sides stressed that Yugoslav-Soviet relations are developing successfully based on the principles of the Belgrade Declaration of 1955 and the Moscow Statement of 1956, which were also confirmed in subsequent joint Yugoslav-Soviet documents at meetings at the highest level. Both sides expressed readiness to further promote comprehensive Yugoslav-Soviet cooperation and strengthen mutual understanding and friendship between the nations and nationalities of Yugoslavia and the Soviet Union.

On behalf of the Soviet leadership, Mikhail Gorbachev renewed the invitation to Veselin Djuranovic, SFRY Presidency president; Ali Sukrija, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium; and to Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council, to visit the USSR.

On behalf of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, Ali Sukrija invited Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to visit Yugoslavia. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

ARKHIPOV RECEIVES SLOVENE DELEGATION 18 MAR

LD182031 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1700 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Dusan Sinogoj, president of the Executive Council of the Socialist Republic of Slovenia, today. Dusan Sinogoj is visiting the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Council of Ministers of the Belorussian SSR. During their conversation, which took place in a friendly atmosphere, they discussed cooperation between the two sister republics, Belorussia and Slovenia. The conversation was attended by Kondrat Terekh, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Belorussian SSR, and Milojko Drulovic, the SFRY ambassador to the Soviet Union.

BRITAIN'S HOWE VOICES DOUBTS ABOUT SDI

PM191701 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 85 Second Edition p 4

[Report by PRAVDA own correspondent A. Maslennikov: "Growing Concern"]

[Text] London, 16 Mar -- Speaking yesterday at the Royal Institute of Defence Studies, Foreign Secretary G. Howe said that the Western allies must carefully analyze all aspects of the proposed U.S. concept before expressing unconditional support for it. Having expounded the British Government's well-known viewpoint on the research part of the program, Howe saw fit to issue the warning that the actual commencement of research may have unpredictable consequences.

The creation of an ABM system, G. Howe said, poses a whole series of complex technical, strategic, and military-political problems. Among scientists and politicians, he noted, there is no certainty that this system is at all capable of attaining the goals that have been set for it. "We all admit," he said, "that there would be no sense in creating a new 'Maginot line of the 21st century' liable to be outflanked by relatively simpler and considerably cheaper countermeasures."

But there is more to it than that, Howe continued. "At all stages we must not lose sight of the key issue: Will this new development not undermine the existing system of deterrence?... We must constantly be thinking how best to ensure the effectiveness of deterrence, and to limit rather than stimulate a further arms race."

From this viewpoint, Howe said, the "star wars" concept poses the "inevitable risk of a radical revision of the current foundations of Western security." It may result in an abrupt destabilization of the international situation, a new acceleration of the arms race, the appearance of dangerous uncertainty in international relations, and the growth of the threat of nuclear war."

Assessing G. Howe's pronouncements, the local paper THE FINANCIAL TIMES notes that they "reflect the government's growing concern in connection with President Reagan's attempts to implement his strategic defense initiative." Citing official British Foreign Office spokesmen, commentators note that G. Howe's speech is the fullest and most detailed account of London's official policy on this issue. "The tone of the speech," the diplomatic correspondent of THE DAILY TELEGRAPH writes, was prompted by fears that the U.S. Administration's enthusiasm for space defense could undermine prospects for agreements at the Geneva talks."

BELGIUM VOTES TO DEPLOY U.S. NUCLEAR MISSILES

LD201056 Moscow TASS in English 0927 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Brussels March 20 TASS -- After a stormy debate, which continued the whole night, Belgium's right-wing centre coalition has succeeded in dragging through the parliament the decision, taken previously under the pressure of the USA and NATO, on the deployment in that country of the first 16 American first-strike nuclear missiles. Despite the fact that an overwhelming majority of Belgium's population opposes this dangerous step, the MPs representing right wing and ultra-rightist parties, have voted for confidence in the government in connection with the missile problem. Before voting the government used all methods possible to break the will of the "disobedient" ones among the parties of the ruling coalition. As a result 116 deputies voted for confidence in the government, 93 -- against with one abstention.

Speaking in the debate, Luis Tobbak, leader of the group of Flemish Socialists in Parliament, said that in adopting the decision on the deployment of missiles, the government acted as a "vassal of the USA". The Socialists said if they won the elections in December this year they would revise this decision, which is in conflict with the aspirations of the Belgian people.

Antideployment Protests Held

LD191505 Moscow TASS in English 1432 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Brussels March 19 TASS -- Protests continue unabated in Belgium over the commenced stationing of new U.S. first-strike nuclear missiles on the country's territory. A mass demonstration of protest attended mainly by youth was held in the city of Leuven, the site of one of Belgium's biggest universities, Leuven Catholic University, on the appeal of the Flemish Committee of Action in Protest Against Nuclear Weapons.

The Belgian Government continues to receive letters from political parties, public organizations and anti-war movements condemning the move of the cabinet which consented to the deployment of U.S. first-strike nuclear missile systems in Belgium. The Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belgium urged the parliament to cancel the decision of the authorities in favor of missile siting.

The Communist Party of Belgium called for a nuclear arms freeze in Europe and the setting up of nuclear weapon-free zones on the continent -- the moves that would promote a successful completion of the Soviet-U.S. negotiations at Geneva.

The Socialist Party -- French-speaking wing condemned the government decision to deploy first 16 cruise missiles at a base in Florennes. The party expressed indignation over the fact that the cabinet embarked on missile siting before holding parliamentary debates on that matter in a move that runs counter to the constitutional norms.

The National Committee of Action for Peace and Disarmament, one of the main centers coordinating actions of anti-war orgnizations announced its decision to appeal to the State Council, the consultative judicial body of the country, requesting it to announce the government's decision on the deployment of cruise missiles in Belgium unconstitutional.

FRG OFFICIAL INTERVIEWED ON TRADE WITH USSR

LD192157 Moscow TASS in English 1737 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Stuttgart March 19 TASS -- Correspondent Sergey Sosnovskiy reporting:

Prime Minister Lothar Spaeth of Land Baden-Wuerttemberg gave an interview to TASS in conjunction with an exhibition of that West German Land that opened in Moscow today. Lothar Spaeth said in part: I'm looking forward to meetings and conversations with political figures, businessmen and members of the public of your country. I'm sure we will have a lot of subjects for discussion. These will be questions pertaining to political relations between West Germany and the Soviet Union where we should seek points of contact. And, to be sure, mutually beneficial trade and economic cooperation. Baden-Wuettemberg, a highly industrialized region of West Germany, has already accumulated a certain amount of positive experience of doing business with Soviet agencies. However, our potentialities are still not being used to the full.

There are untapped reserves which we may detect given goodwill and interest of both sides. The business community of Land Baden-Wuerttemberg wants that, Lothar Spaeth emphasised.

Coming out in favor of further development of trade and economic, scientific and technical cooperation between West Germany and the Soviet Union, Lothar Spaeth criticised attempts of certain quarters in the West to put up artificial barriers and obstacles on that road.

EUROPEAN FRIENDSHIP SOCIETIES END VIENNA MEETING

LD192205 Moscow TASS in English 1843 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Vienna March 19 TASS -- An international meeting of representatives of European societies of friendship with the Soviet Union drew to a close in the Austrian capital today. The meeting was devoted to the 40th anniversary of Europe's liberation from fascism. The meeting attended by delegates from 27 countries was a vivid demonstration of the respect for the memory of the Soviet people who died in the battle against fascism. The meeting stressed the need of intensifying efforts to promote friendship with the Soviet Union and ensuring peace and trust among nations.

The speakers at the meeting said that the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism largely determined the activities of friendship societies this year. Delegates said it was important to inform the public of the peaceful policy of the USSR, expose all attempts at falsifying history and call into question the results of the Second World War and the post-war development.

The international meeting of representatives of European societies of friendship with the Soviet Union passed a statement expressing support for the efforts made with a view to promoting arms limitation and disarmament and ensuring mutually beneficial cooperation among all states in the spirit of detente and peaceful coexistence.

The statement urged the European public to scale up actions for preventing a nuclear catastrophe, to press for the termination of the arms race, renunciation of plans of space militarization, and promoting general and complete elimination of all types of nuclear weapons.

Austrian President Meets Soviets

LD192210 Moscow TASS in English 1829 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Vienna March 19 TASS -- Federal President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger of the Austrian Republic received in his residence today a delegation from the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries led by Zinayda Kruglova, who chairs the society's presidium. The delegation arrived in Vienna to attend an international meeting of representatives of societies for friendship with the Soviet Union from European countries, which is devoted to the 40th anniversary of the victory over Hitlerite fascism.

Warmly greeting the Soviet guests, Rudolf Kirchschlaeger spoke highly of fruitful and mutually beneficial cooperation between his country and the Soviet Union and the successful development of relations between them in various fields. He said that he attaches much significance to the activities of the Austrian-Soviet Society and the Society of Soviet-Austrian Friendship, which make no small contribution to strengthening friendly links between the two countries.

IZVESTIYA NOTES FRENCH CANTON ELECTION RESULTS

PM191209 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS correspondent report: "Results of Vote Announced"]

[Text] Paris, 18 Mar -- The French Ministry of the Interior and Decentralization has published the official figures on the results of the canton elections which have been held in the country, in the course of which one-half of the composition of the general councils, the departments' leading bodies, was renewed.

The elections were in two rounds, on 10 and 17 March. The results of the first round were particularly severely affected by the anxiety and uncertainty among broad strata of the population in connection with the economic and social crisis which the country is experiencing, and also by dissatisfaction with the "stringency" policy being pursued by the government. This meant that the right-wing bourgeois opposition, joined at these elections by the extreme right "National Front," speculating demagogically on the country's real problems, secured more than half of all votes overall.

The left-wing forces, realizing that a serious, real right-wing threat existed, called on their supporters to rally in the second round and give all their votes to whichever candidate from the left-wing parties and groupings had the best chance of victory on the basis of the results of the first round. These tactics proved justified. As practically all the mass media are noting today, in the end these elections did not bring the right-wing opposition the decisive superiority it was counting on, although its positions did strengthen overall at department level. The right managed to gain the majority on the general councils of 10 more departments, and now the leadership of 69 of the 95 metropolitan departments are in its hands.

The results were affected by the unfair nature of the present majority electoral system. L'HUMANITE stresses that with a proportional system the French Communist Party would have received 246 seats on the general councils on the results of the first round alone. Under the present system it obtained only 149. In comparison with the last canton elections in 1979, the Socialist Party lost 155 seats, receiving 424. Of the bourgeois opposition parties, the Rally for the Republic will now have 400 seats on the general councils (155 more than before), and the Union for French Democracy 525 (102 more than before).

SYRIA'S AL-ASAD MEETS WITH LEBANON'S FRANJIYAH

PM191426 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "In the Interests of National Harmony"]

[Text] Damascus, 18 Mar -- Talks have been held in the Syrian capital between Syrian President H. al-Asad and the prominent Lebanese politician and former Lebanese President S. Franjiyah. H. al-Asad reaffirmed Syria's support for the legitimate Lebanese authorities and the efforts of the Lebanese Government to strengthen national harmony.

In a joint statement published here S. Franjiyah, N. Birri, minister for the south and reconstruction, and W. Junblatt, Lebanese minister of public works, appealed to all Lebanese to defend the country's unity and its territorial integrity and to deal a resolute rebuff to the intrigues of Tel Aviv and Israeli agents aimed at destabilizing the situation in Lebanon. They condemened the position of the United States, which supports Israel in its aggression against Lebanon.

The Ba'th Party leadership message to friendly parties resolutely condemns the terror unleashed by the Zionist occupiers against the peaceful inhabitants of southern Lebanon. Israel, it points out, has pitched thousands of soldiers, hundreds of tanks and armored personnel carriers, and dozens of warplanes against Lebanon's civilian population. The invaders' bloody crimes, the message stresses, would have been impossible without the comprehensive political, economic, and military aid given Tel Aviv by Washington.

USSR, U.S. MIDEAST PEACE INITIATIVES CONTRASTED

LD152232 Moscow TASS in English 2125 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 15 TASS -- The proposal for convening a peace conference on the Midddle East with the participation of allsides concerned, since long advanced by the Soviet Union, has been actually backed by all Arab countries and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the NEW TIMES weekly writes in its article "Rights of Palestinians: Two Approaches." An overwhelming majority of the U.N. member states voted in favour of the proposal at the international conference on Palestine in Geneva in 1983, at the 38th and 39th sessions of the U.N. General Assembly, with the United States and Israeli being the only countries which voted against. It would seem that the path for resolving the Palestinian problem is obvious, but King Husayn of Jordan and Yasir 'Arafat signed in Amman on February 11 an agreement on the framework of joint actions. What is new in the document? The weekly inquires.

All Arab national patriotic forces indicate that the Amman accords ignore two major provisions on which the PLO's position has been always based -- equitable participation of the PLO in a comprehensive solution of the Middle East problem and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

These provisions are substituted by the participation in the talks on the Middle East settlement of a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and the establishment of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation without a clear definition of the right of the Palestinian people to statehood. Anti-imperialist Arab circles stress that the principle "territory in exchange for peace," sealed in the agreement, in fact means a rejection of the principle under which the Palestinian problem constitutes the crux of the settlement.

Washington, as it was to be expected, the weekly points out, welcomed the Amman agreement and came out, at the same time, against convening an international conference on the Middle East. The patriotic Arab press observed that by encouraging such documents, the United States is seeking to revive the Camp David spirit with the help of the Arabs themselves, and isolate them from Soviet support. The advocates of the framework for joint actions claim that it has much in common with the Soviet Union's proposals for Middle East settlement. These statements are aimed at deluding Arab and world public opinion.

The Soviet proposals of July 29, 1984 clearly indicate that it is impossible to settle the Middle East situation without resolving the Palestinian problem. They state that the PLO should be made an equitable participant in all negotiations as the only authentic representative of the Palestinian people, that their right to establish an independent state of their own on the Palestinian lands liberated from Israeli occupation should be exercised in practice.

On February 24, the weekly points out, Egyptian President Mubarak backed the idea of holding direct talks between a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and Israel. He suggested that the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation hold a dialogue with the United States, which could be later expanded by joining to it Israel and other sides and convening an international conference with the participation of all sides concerned, as well as U.N. Security Council permanent members. The "Mubarak initiative" was assessed in the Middle East as a call for capitulation to the United States and Israel, as continuation of the process started by the conclusion in 1978 of the Camp David accords betwen Egypt and Israel, NEW TIMES points out.

The "Mubarak initiative is fraught with the aggravation of the situation in the region, as Camp David brought about the war in Lebanon, since its aim, as before, is to hinder the solution of the key problem in the conflict, the problem of the exercise of the national rights of the Palestinian people. [no end quotation marks as received]

Arab patriotic circles call for PLO unity on an anti-imperialist basis, on the basis of rejecting the Camp David accords, "Reagan's plan" and other conciliatory versions of the settlement. They believe that the 1984 Algiers-Aden accords should be adopted as the organizational basis for restoring the unity of all detachments of the Palestinian resistance movement and the PLO, and the principles of the Soviet programme for peace in the Middle East, whose basic provisions coincide with the all Arab position worked out in Fes, should become its political basis. Close cooperation of the PLO with Syria, with Lebanese Patriotic Resistance Front and all national patriotic forces is especially important at present, when the United States is seeking to establish in the Middle East peace American style.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL CONCERNED OVER IRAN-IRAQ WAR

PM191636 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 85 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Iran-Iraq: Bloody Battles"]

[Excerpt] New York, 16 Mar -- The UN Security Council has expressed profound alarm over the scale of the renewed hostilities in the Iran-Iraq conflict, which have led to a dangerous exacerbation of the situation in relations between them to the detriment of peace and security in the region. The members of the Security Council decided to continue to actively examine this question and consult with both sides and the UN secretary general with a view to seeking opportunities for ending the conflict.

TASS CITES IRANIAN, IRAQI 19 MAR BATTLE REPORTS

LD191729 Moscow TASS in English 1650 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Baghdad March 19 TASS -- A group of foreign journalists, who made a trip to an area near the front, attended a press conference in the city of Al 'Uzayr, which was held by Major-General S. Hashim, commander of forces "east of the River Tigris". He said that Iraqi forces fully routed Iranian forces numbering more than eight divisions in the area of the Al-Hawizah marshes. Most of the fighting, he said, took place on a front 10 to 15 kilometers long in the Al-Qurnah-Al Muradiyan sector on the eastern bank of the Tigris. Enemy forces afterwards tried to give an added scope to their offensive south and north of that district. Iranian troops landed from boats and helicopters on the western bank of the swamps which begin on Iranian territory. The push involved both regular Army units and "Guards of Islamic Revolution". Like was the case last year, the offensive aimed to straddle a strategic road between Baghdad and Basra.

The general said that during the operation Iranian troops built several floating bridges, including a major bridge spanning a swamp to rush in reinforcements, which was later destroyed by Iraqi forces. Besides, the enemy attempted in vain to build a bridge across the Tigris. Part of the Iranian forces, which had been able to cross the river in an another area, was defeated. The general said that the Baghdad-Basra road was closed to civilians for security reasons but remained constantly under Iraqi control throughout its length.

The general explained the exceptionally stubborn nature of the fighting by the fact that Iranian command mobilized "all its possibilities for the offensive and prepared for it for a whole year". He rejected Iranian charges that Iraqi troops employed chemical weapons. "Iraq has never used toxic agents. We do not have chemical weapons," he said.

Everything on the battlefield in the area of Al 'Uzayr points to recent and fierce fighting there as one sees scorched earth, numerous corpses, and trenches that are half-filled with earth.

Iraqi aviation today dealt blows to individual targets in the Iranian cities of Bushehr, Khorramabad, Hamadan and other populated localities. Iraq denied Iranian claims that four Iraqi aircraft were shot down.

Nicosia March 19 TASS -- Iranian troops "are fortifying captured positions" in the area of the Al-Hawizah marshes and frustrated enemy attempts "to restore the former situation", Tehran radio reported. In the course of the fighting at Al-Hawizah 12,000 enemy troops were killed and wounded, and many tanks, armored personnel carriers and other combat equipment were destroyed and damaged.

According to the Iranian side, four Iraqi planes were shot down over different regions of Iran. The Iraqi capital of Baghdad and the city of Kirkuk were subjected to rocket fire which caused significant destruction and casualties among the population.

CUBA'S RAUL CASTRO MEETS WITH SOVIET LEADERS

Received by Gorbachev

LD201137 Moscow TASS in English 1126 GMT 20 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 20 TASS -- Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has met and talked today with Raul Castro, member of the Political Bureau, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, first deputy chairman of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers of the Republic. Present at the meeting was Konstantin Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Jorge Risquet, member of the Political Bureau and Secretariat of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, Lionel Soto, member of the Secretariat of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, ambassador of Cuba to the USSR.

Mikhail Gorbachev expressed gratitude to Raul Castro for the expression of condolences on behalf of Fidel Castro, the Communist Party, the Government and people of Cuba over the death of Konstantin Chernenko.

In the course of the meeting questions were discussed pertaining to a further deepening and perfecting of Soviet-Cuban relations. Determination was reaffirmed to strengthen further friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Cuba on the basis of the principles of socialist internationalism.

Views were exchanged on topical international issues, and mutual striving was expressed to continue jointly with the other states of the socialist community, with all peaceable countries and public forces an persistent struggle for strengthening peace and international security, freedom and independence of peoples, for putting an end to the arms race, eliminating the threat of nuclear war, a political settlement of conflict situations, for strengthening the fundamental of peaceful coexistence.

The meeting proceeded in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship, cordiality and full mutual understanding.

Meeting With Sokolov

LD191749 Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Moscow March 19 TASS -- Minister of Defense of the U.S.S.R. Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov had a meeting with a member of the Politbureau and Second Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, First Deputy Chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers, Minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba, General of the Army Raul Castro Ruz.

The Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Sokolov and General of the Army Raul Castro Ruz had a cordial, friendly conversation on questions of mutual interest.

Taking part in the meeting were chief of the General Staff of the Soviet Armed Forces, First Deputy Minister of Defense of the U.S.S.R. Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Akhromeyev and a member of the Politbureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba Jorge Risquet Valdes.

CUBA'S JORGE RISQUET, PONOMAREV HOLD TALKS

FL190130 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] Today in Moscow, Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU, received Jorge Risquet Valdes, member of the Politburo and Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party. During the meeting, which took place in a cordial, friendly atmosphere, matters of mutual interest concerning diverse international problems were discussed.

NICARAGUAN CONTRAS' 'CRIMES' DESCRIBED

LD181111 Moscow TASS in English 0900 GMT 18 Mar 85

[Text] New York March 18 TASS -- Former Somocistas from among gangs which have been formed and armed by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) sow terror and violence during their piratic inroads into Nicaragua. They are guided by the directions of their U.S. "instructors". This is evidenced by numerous facts of monstrous crimes committed by anti-Nicaraguan terrorists. The facts are given in a report issued here by a public organization, "America's Watch".

During a raid in one of southern Nicaraguan provinces, bandits kidnapped two teachers and tortured them for a week. The bandits also atrociously murdered two unarmed peasants upon chopping off their arms. The Somocistas declared all their victims to be "Sandinista spies" in an attempt thereby to scare the local population away from assisting the Nicaraguan authorities in the fight against the counter-revolutionary gangs.

In Zelaya Province, "contras" killed three civilians and kidnapped Gustavo Adolfo Sequeira Pena, the rector of a medical school, and one of students who practised medical service to the local population. The fate of the two persons is unknown up to now.

On the outskirts of the city of Jinotega, bandits fired upon a lorry which was carrying women and children. One woman and a child were killed and three others were heavily wounded.

The list of sanguinary crimes committed by the "contras" already this year could be continued. Commenting on the report, the newpaper DAILY WORLD points out that in all the mentioned cases terrorists acted strictly according to the CIA's notorious "manual".

That collection of instructions on terrorism advises terrosists to neutralize, kidnap all officials and agents of the Sandinista government and to hire as far as possible professional criminals to carry out specific "work", and when killing individual persons to portray them as enemies of the people.

The facts vividly show that the U.S. President blasphemously describes as "fighters for freedom" in Nicaragua the inveterate bandits, rapists and killers who with Washington's support and on its direct instructions have unleashed sanguinary terror against the Nicaraguan people. THE NEW YORK TIMES newspaper points out, however, that the "contras" will never be able independently to overthrow the Government of Nicaragua, which U.S. ruling circles seek.

This precisely accounts for the fact that the White House has now launched a massive campaign of pressure on Congress in a demand for the granting of new multimillion sums of money as direct U.S. aid to anti-Nicaraguan gangs. THE NEW YORK TIMES points out that more than 80 million dollars have already been supplied to them through CIA channels alone.

TV REPORTS BOMB EXPLOSION IN GUADELOUPE

LD192347 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 15 Mar 85

[From the "World Today" program presented by Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] As if the unpleasantness in New Caledonia was not enough for Paris, tension on the island of Guadeloupe, a French overseas department in the Caribbean Basin, has now been sharply exacerbated. As a result of a bomb explosion in Pointe-a-Pitre, one of the island's main towns, one person was killed and eight were injured. Those behind this terrorist act are not as yet known.

The Guadeloupe Communists have assessed this provocation on the eve of the second round of the canton election as an attempt by reactionary forces to establish terror. The explosion in this town gave authorities the pretext to reinforce the police forces. Additional units of gendarmes have already been transferred to Guadeloupe from neighboring Martinique and new reinforcements are expected from the mother country, i.e. from France.

The streets of Pointe-a-Pitre are being patrolled by special units of police. According to LIBERATION, representatives of the white minority on Guadeloupe who come out against the granting of independence to this island are taking advantage of the increase in tension in order to arm themselves. As a result, more unpleasantness may occur on Guadeloupe.

CHILEAN FPMR ACTIONS, COMMUNIQUE REPORTED

PY191659 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2130 GMT 15 Mar 85

[Text] [Words indistinct] information on the actions of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] members who set a vehicle on fire, created a traffic jam, fired their weapons into the air, and distributed hundreds of pamphlets calling for popular protests against Pinochet's dictatorship.

According to international news agencies, the events took place on Vicuna McKenna Avenue in Santiago at 1900 on 14 March. Approximately 30 hooded youths intercepted a car, forced the driver to get out, and set the vehicle on fire. Then, while firing their weapons into the air, the youths distributed leaflets which urged the people to participate in the protest against the military regime slated for the end of March. This daring action of the FPMR [words indistinct] very swiftly and led to a huge traffic jam, which prevented police units from arriving promptly at the site of the demonstration. While the traffic was diverted to neighboring streets, the FPMR members vanished.

The FPMR, which describes itself as the armed branch of the people, has issued a communique stating that the attacks that allegedly took place in Chile after the earthquake on 3 March are an invention of President Pinochet's government. In their communique, the organization indicated that it has not carried out any such actions in the days following the quake which struck the central zone of the country. The FPMR communique pointed out that the government merely seeks a smokescreen for its insensitivity and lack of support to those affected by the quake.

EDITORIAL VIEWS PROSPECTS UNDER GORBACHEV

PM191519 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 16 Mar 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Always With the Party"]

[Text] The country's work days: the successes and innovatory initiatives of industrial workers, the spring concerns of farmers, the call signs of the "Red Saturday," the rhythms of new construction projects, the creative questing of scientists and of figures in the arts. Such is our Soviet character, shaped by Lenin's party: It is determined by civic consciousness of the fact that everything thanks to which the motherland, our home, is stong and rich is created only by labor, struggle, and the indefatigable creative work of each of us.

This immutable truth found convincing confirmation in the documents of the CPSU Central Committee extraordinary plenum, which demonstrated the party's unshakable loyalty to the Leninist course of creation and peace and the continuity in its foreign and domestic policy. This was evidenced by the unanimous election of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, eminent figure of the Communist Party and the Soviet state and loyal Leninist, as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee at the plenum, which met with nationwide approval.

Our country's Communists and all Soviet people have perceived as a guide for action

In recent years a number of measures have been implemented on the party's initiative with a view to enhancing the effectiveness of material and moral incentives and bringing the wages of various categories of working people into line with the labor contribution of each worker. These efforts of the party have been supported by initiatives in developing team forms of labor organization and the "Honor According to Labor" movement and by the improvement of the moral and psychological climate in labor collectives. As in other spheres, here, too, the party relies on the will of the masses and the people's experience, and this is the guarantee that its appeal for strict observance of social justice will be embodied in Soviet people's new labor achievements.

The realization of this principle is directly linked with the further improvement and development of democracy and the entire system of the people's socialist self-management, which the party regards as one of the fundamental tasks of its domestic policy.

More than 2.3 million deputies were elected to union and autonomous republic supreme soviets and local soviets during the recent elections. These final indicators provide convincing new confirmation of the strengthening unity of the party and the people and the further flowering of socialist people's power. It is now a matter of ensuring that the soviets at all levels use all their consititutional rights and powers and their whole authority to successfully resolve the tasks defined by the 26th CPSU Congress, the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum, subsequent plenums, and the CPSU Central Committee extraordinary plenum.

The documents of the CPSU Central Committee plenum point out that the deepening of socialist democracy is inseparably linked with the enhancement of public consciousness. As in all other spheres of the life of society, in the spiritual sphere it evaluates the effectiveness of educational work, above all, according to the end result and the way in which workers, kolkhoz members, and the intelligentsia participate in resolving problems large and small, do their work, and struggle against shortcomings.

The purpose of all ideological work is to enhance Soviet people's labor and social activeness, strengthen discipline, and foster patriotism and internationalism.

The proposition in Comrade M.S. Gorbachev's speech at the CPSU Central Committee plenum that decisive measures will continue to be taken to further instill order, to purge our life of alien phenomena and of any encroachments on the interests of society and its citizens, and to strengthen socialist legality fully accords with the demands of the time and the sentiments of Soviet people. The active support of all Soviet citizens is ensured for the party's efforts in further strengthening a healthy climate in society and in the struggle against all manifestations of ostentation, idle talk, conceit, irresponsibility, and against everything that contradicts the socialist norms of life.

In its ideological and educational work and in its work to boost the people's spiritual culture, the party has always counted and continues to count on the tremendous creative potential of our artistic intelligentsia and of all socialist culture. Masters of literature and art are called on to carry the party's words to the masses through their own medium and to elevate the dignity of Soviet working man and encourage him to make new achievements for the good of the people and for the sake of the motherland through vivid and artistically convincing works. The country's artistic intelligentsia greeted with full approval the strategic lines of party activity laid down by the CPSU Central Committee extraoridinary plenum, and it is ready to make its own worthy contribution to fulfilling the outlined program and further increasing the people's spiritual culture.

Following Lenin's behests, the CPSU and its Central Committee has always appealed and continues to appeal, in all its undertakings, to the inexhaustible source of the masses' initiative, creativity, and creative energy.

However, it is not enough to merely encourage this energy; all the necessary conditions must be created for every worker to perform genuinely creative work and to fulfill his targets and obligations to society.

"We will support, encourage, and elevate as far as possible those who, not by word but by deed and practical results, display their own honest and conscientious attitude to the fulfillment of social duty," Comrade M.S. Gorbachev stressed.

The CPSU Central Committee plenum singled out the need to further strengthen the party's cohesion and its ties with the masses, and also to boost its organizing and guiding role in society's life and the personal responsibility and example of each Communist in any work, as the most important condition for successfully resolving the complex tasks that have been set. The party is the actual force, the plenum emphasized, which is capable of taking into account the interests of all classes, social groups, nations and ethnic groups in the country, rallying them closely together, and mobilizing the people's energy for the common cause of communist building.

While presenting before the Soviet people a large-scale program for consistently continuing the Leninist course and improving all aspects of society's life, the party is simultaneously calling for a concentration of efforts to scale the planned specific heights: successful conclusion of work to fulfill the plans for economic and social development in the current year, the final year of the 11th 5-Year Plan, and thus ensure the most confident start for the coming 5-year plan. This task is not easy, especially bearing in mind that the harsh winter has somewhat hindered the fulfillment of plan targets in a number of sectors. This is where real businesslike efficiency, organization, initiative, and patriotic efforts by everyone are needed today.

Communists and all Soviet people have undertaken the solution of tasks set by the party, inspired by its confident words spoken by Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the CPSU Central Committee extraordinary plenum:

"The time demands tense and creative work by all party organizations, from top to bottom. Communists in all sectors and everywhere, without exception, must set an example of performance of civic duty and conscientious labor for the benefit of society, and must establish everywhere the Leninist style of work."

CPSU'S TSUKANOV INTERVIEWED ON GORBACHEV ELECTION

AU190900 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 17 Mar 85 p 1, 4

[RABOTNICHESKO DELO interview with Georgiy Emanuilovich Tsukanov, first deputy head of department at the CPSU Central Committee, in Bulgaria; date not given]

[Text] [RABOTNICHESKO DELO] What, in your opinion are the chief characteristics of the CPSU Central Committee Extraordinary March Plenum?

[Tsukanov] To put it briefly: The monolithic unity of the CPSU and of its Central Committee, the confidence that we will achieve the goals of peace and creative work that the Soviet Communists are setting for themselves.

In the speech delivered by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the continuity of the CPSU domestic and foreign policy was most specifically stressed.

The strategic line worked out at the 26th CPSU Congress and at the Central Committee plenums following this congress, with the active participation of Yu.V. Andropov and K.U. Chernenko, was and remains unchanged. Our country is engaged in solving and accomplishing important tasks of great responsibility. It is impossible to describe them in detail in one single interview, but the essential character of these tasks can be analyzed as follows:

The chief tasks in the economic sector from the point of view of the CPSU is to intensify the national economy, achieve the most updated scientific-technical positions, and reach the highest world level in labor productivity. How are we planning to achieve all this? At the Extraordinary March Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee it was pointed out that the party is firmly following the trend of further consolidating state planning and working discipline, that the economic mechanisms will be perseveringly improved; this applies to the overall management system. Large scale and thorough experiments are taking place throughout the country, aimed at consolidating the planning principle in the economy and at increasing the independence and responsibility of enterprises, as well as intensifying the interest of these enterprises in the final results of their work.

In the political sector, the party considers as one of the basic tasks to be the perfection and development of democracy and the entire system of socialist self-government with the broad participation of the people. This work is being steadily accomplished. The party is devoting care to an increasing propagation of the activities of party, soviet, state, and social organizations, as well as to encouraging the efforts and initiative of every Soviet individual.

As to ideological work, the party is trying to educate all members of our society in a spirit of communist awareness, which, of course, not only requires attention being devoted to schools, to higher educational institutions, and to the cultural sector, in the broad sense of this term, but also to the active participation of the working people in all social affairs.

The Soviet people are greeting the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee March Extraordinary Plenum with ardent approval. The last days of mourning confirmed with new emphasis the unity of thought and aspirations between the party and the people. This is where the strength of Soviet society lies, this is a reliable guarantee for new successes in our country.

[RABOTNICHESKO DELO] How are the preparations for the 27th CPSU Congress proceeding?

[Tsukanov] Our entire country in actually preparing for the worthy implementation of the 27th CPSU Congress. The work on a new edition of the CPSU program continues, certain specifications and changes will also be made in the party statute. The prospects of the country's development during the forthcoming 5-year plan period and for the period up to the year 2000 are also being worked out. Naturally, the draft documents for the forthcoming congress will be widely discussed.

The preparations for the congress require the energetic efforts of the entire party and of all working people, aimed at the implementation of the plans for social and economic development in 1985 and at the successful implementation of the tasks assigned for the current 5-year plan period as a whole.

The winter in the Soviet Union was hard this year. This fact arrested development in certain branches of our national economy. I know that in Bulgaria and in some other fraternal countries, too, the winter caused numerous difficulties and troubles. This makes it necessary to devote energetic efforts to increase production rates so that by the end of the year we may achieve the tasks we have set for ourselves.

In this case again, it will be very helpful for all of us to further develop our mutual cooperation and to implement the decisions of the CEMA economic summit on a planned basis.

[RABOTNICHESKO DELO] How would you describe the most characteristic features of the preparations for the celebration of the 40th anniversary of victory over Hitler's fascism and Japanese militarism?

[Tsukanov] I would like to call your attention, above all, to the assertive tone of all the events that are dedicated to the anniversary of the great victory. Of course, as one Soviet song says: "This is a holiday with tears in our eyes." We will never forget those who perished while defending our motherland. However, in remembering the past, we must think of the future. The lessons of the last war must confirm the thought that war can and must be prevented. The Soviet people and their friends throughout the world are strong enough to stop the arms race, to preserve peace on the earth.

Victory day is an international holiday. The CPSU Central Committee decree on the celebration of the 40th anniversary of victory speaks about the contribution of the peoples from various countries to the defeat of Hitler's fascism, including the Bulgarian people. The Hitlerites did not succeed in sending one Bulgarian soldier to the Eastern Front. Not one Soviet soldier was killed by a Bulgarian bullet. The Soviet people are well aware of this fact and remember the names of the Bulgarian antifascist heroes who contributed to the common victory overy the enemy.

[RABOTNICHESKO DELO] This is not your first visit to Bulgaria. What are your impressions on the present-day situation in our country?

[Tsukanov] I would like to avoid speaking in cliches. However, in all honesty, I can only give you the most precise answer: My impressions are excellent.

Everything is seen in the light of comparison, in the course of changes. I saw Bulgaria, and I am seeing it now in the awareness that the opportunities of socialism in your country are increasingly revealing themselves from year to year. This country is advancing confidently. The social creative work of the party and people is producing ever increasing, new results. New plants, beautiful cities, nuclear power stations -- all this is good, it makes a strong impression. My impression of the people in socialist Bulgaria is also the same: They love their country and are making it more and more beautiful.

Having celebrated the 40th anniversary of its liberation, Bulgaria is confidently advancing today toward the 13th BCP Congress and is preparing to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the BCP's Leninist April line. In this regard, I would like to recall the statement Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev made in September 1984: "Your country's remarkable achievements in the years of socialism are inseparable from the purpose-oriented and creative work of Blagoev's and Dimitrov's party, from the creative work of the BCP Central Committee, which for nearly 30 years has been headed by Comrade Todor Zhivkov, the remarkable son of Bulgaria, the distinguished figure of the worldwide communist and workers movement, the great friend of the Soviet Union."

GRISHIN ATTENDS SESSION ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

LD192144 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] At the first session of the Moscow City Soviet of the new convocation today, there was discussion of further improving activity of the Moscow City Soviet in implementing the comprehensive plan of economic and social development of the capital and improvement of services to the people.

It was noted that the capital's national economy is developing dynamically. The social program is being successfully fulfilled. Since the start of the 5-year plan, some 15 million square meters of housing has been built in the city. Special attention was paid to production of consumer goods, which has grown at accelerated rates compared with industrial production overall.

Analyzing the state of affairs in various sectors of the urban economy in the spirit of the CPSU Central Committee March Plenum, deputies concentrated attention on tasks that have to be carried out. They noted the need to display more businesslike qualities and initiative in work, increase exactingness, and raise responsibility for the task entrusted. The task consists of making use of existing reserves to successfully fulfill the tasks of the year and the 5-year plan and more fully satisfy the growing demands of the population. The gorispolkom and standing commissions of the Moscow City Soviet were elected. Comrade Promyslov was elected chairman of the gorispolkom. Taking part in the work of the session was Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first secretary of Moscow Gorkom.

MORE ON USSR SCIENCES ACADEMY SPECIAL SESSION

PM191310 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Mar 85 Morning Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Victory for the Sake of Peace; General Meeting of the USSR Academy of Sciences"]

[Text] The 18 March special sitting of the USSR Academy of Sciences general meeting session was devoted to the world historical significance of the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War and the active participation of scientists in defending the socialist fatherland.

The meeting's presidium consisted of M.V. Zimyanin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman ofthe State Committee for Science and Technology; V.A. Medvedev, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Science and Education Establishments Department academy leaders; and eminent military leaders.

The meeting was opened by Academician A.P. Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Soviet scientists, he said, made a great contribution to strengthening the country's defense capability, supplying the Armed Forces with military equipment, creating fundamentally new weapons, and ensuring their series production on a scale that ultimately assured the superiority of the Soviet Armed Forces over fascist Germany's armies.

Our country had a large detachment of highly skilled scientific cadres. They included many scientists whose works gained worldwide recognition. The USSR Academy of Sciences and its institutes and autonomous laboratories successfully conducted research of defenese significance on an exceptionally broad front. Physicists created theoretical preconditions for the design of new types of military equipment and defense from the enemy; mathematicians developed methods for the fastest possible calculations for the artillery, Air Force, and Navy; chemical engineers discovered new methods for the production of explosives, alloys, and pharmaceuticals.

Today, the president stressed, the level of development of Soviet science directly influences the country's defense potential, preventing military superiority on the part of the forces of imperialism.

A report was delivered at the meeting by P.A. Zhilin, corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences and chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Institute of Military History.

Thousands of threads, he noted, still connect victory day with the aspirations and hopes of freedom-loving mankind and its struggle to preserve and strengthen peace on earth. This is why the celebration of the 40th anniversary of victory acquires an international character and will take place in all countries by decision of the 39th UN General Assembly Session. Nevertheless, bourgeois historiography and propaganda are making tremendous efforts to create a false public opinion of the nature and scale of World War II and above all to erase from the postwar generation's memory the truth about the war and the great victory. These attempts show that events of the last war and its history are not something that has receded quietly into the past, but the front of an acute ideological struggle.

The participants in the meeting adopted an address to the world's scientists in connection with the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism. We scientists, the document says, bear particular responsibility for mankind's future. The scientific community is called upon to contribute actively to ensuring that atomic research is aimed not at developing new types of thermonuclear weapons but at using the atom for peaceful purposes and boosting energy resources, and also to ensuring that space technology is used not for "star wars" but in the service of the cause of peace and progress.

Mankind is on the threshold of the 21st century. Scientists can and must do everything within their power to resolve urgent global problems such as the elimination of hunger and poverty, the struggle against disease, the extension of lifespans, and the rational use of natural assets. It is the noble task of all the world's scientists to resolutely oppose chauvinism and the fanning of mistrust among peoples and to educate people in the spirit of international cooperation.

On the eve of the glorious 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism, Soviet scientists declare, the world perceives even more convincingly the truth of our time that mankind has sufficient wisdom to prevent its own destruction. Its creative reason is stronger than nuclear madness.

TIKHONOV, OTHERS SIGN FORMER MINISTER'S OBITUARY

PM191637 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Mar 85 Second Edition p 6

[Excerpts] Aleksandr Grigoryevich Sheremetyev, individual union pensioner, State Prize winner, and former USSR minister of ferrous metallurgy, died on 15 March 1985 in his 84th year after a serious illness.

N.A. Tikhonov, V.I. Dolgikh, V.V. Kuznetsov, I.V. Arkhipov, N.K. Baybakov, V.E. Dymshits, I.P. Yastrebov, I.P. Kazanets, P.F. Lomako, D.P. Galkin, I.I. Kostyukov, A.F. Borisov, V.A. Vanchikov, V.O. Kulikov, S.V. Kolpakov, G.N. Sergeyev, V.B. Sinelshchikov, N.A. Tulin.

GOVERNMENT PERSONNEL CHANGES REPORTED

PM191319 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSTVA SSR (OTDEL PERVYY) in Russian in its issue No 4 for 1985 carries a Moscow 9 January-datelined USSR Countil of Ministers resolution on the release of N. Ya. Sychev from the duties of first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Cinematography in connection with his reassignment; and a 21 January Council of Ministers resolution on the retirement of Ye. F. Vlaskin as deputy minister of the chemical industry and his replacement by V.M. Romanov.

SHCHERBINA PRESENTS BANNER TO LITHUANIA

PM181324 Moscow TRUD in Russian 17 Mar 85 p 2

[TASS report: "Award Presentation"]

[Text] Vilnius -- The persistent and purposeful efforts of working collectives to improve management methods and introduce the achievements of scientific and technical progress and the team contract into production enabled the working people of the Lithuanian SSR to successfully complete the production program for 1984. On the basis of its results the Lithuanian SSR has been awarded the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banner for winning All-Union Socialist Competition.

The Challenge Red Banner was presented to the Lithuanian SSR by B.Ye. Shcherbina, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, at the 16 March meeting of the republic's party and economic aktiv.

The speakers gave assurances that the republic's working people will do everything to ensure the successful completion of the 5-year plan and to worthily greet the 27th CPSU Congress.

NOVOSIBIRSK OBLAST AWARDED CHALLENGE RED BANNER

LD190519 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0100 GMT 19 Mar 85

[Text] A plenum of the Novosibirsk Obkom on 18 March discussed the issue of the obkom's tasks on further improving the recruitment, placement, and education of leading cadres and perfecting the style and methods of work in light of the decisions of the 26th party congress and the March 1985 CPSU Central Committee Plenum. A ceremonial meeting took place in Novosibirsk that same day devoted to presenting the oblast with the Challenge Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU, and the VLKSM Central Committee, for victory in the All-Union Socialist Competition of 1984.

Comrade [name indistinct], head of a CPSU Central Committee department, presented the award. Those who addressed the meeting declared their resolve to complete the 5-year plan with shock work and to worthily greet the 27th CPSU Congress.

NEW DEPUTY MINISTER OF POWER ANNOUNCED

PM111120 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOBRANIYE POSTANOVLENIY PRAVITELSTVA SSR (Otdel Pervyy) No 3, 1985, publishes on page 17 a USSR Council of Ministers resolution dated 8 January 1985 appointing "Comrade V.N. Kondratenko USSR deputy minister of power and electrification."

'INERTIA' IN ECONOMIC MANAGEMENT CRITICIZED

PM191218 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Mar 85 First Edition p 3

[Article by M. Poltoranin under the rubric "Party Life: Style and Methods of Leadership": "Against Inertia"]

[Text] The development of the national economy poses many different problems. The bigger the dimensions of the economy, the more complex these problems. These solutions depend to a considerable degree on the standard of leadership, planning, and management. In the time that has elapsed since the 26th CPSU Congress this standard has markedly improved. The methods of management have become more flexible and the quest for effective new forms of management has expanded. Local party committees are now analyzing the situation in greater depth and guiding economic leaders more precisely.

However, are people everywhere checking their work style against life's present-day requirements? What is preventing them from achieving palpable successes on all salients of our work?

"We Weren't the Ones Who Introduced It..."

When I go on business trips I frequently see some leaders shrug in perplexity. Different republics, but one and the same question perturbs people.

In Leninogorsk, Kazakhstan, I. Dumanov, director of the polymetallic combine, told me that he was thinking with anxiety about the enterprise's future. Every year the Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy has been unstinting in money for the development of capacities, but miserly in granting funds for housing, sociocultural and consumer services, and a transport service. The combine has been left without reliable rear services. The truck fleet is worn out, and as a result there are stoppages at the mines. There is already a great shortage of workers in all sectors, yet new capacities are being commissioned.

I had a similar meeting in the north, in Vorkuta. Party Gorkom Secretary G. Oskolkov drove me through the streets of his city. He is proud of his staunch fellow countrymen but saddened by the exodus of miners. They leave because of the shortage of apartments. According to the norms, the "Vorkutaugol" Association needs 2.8 million square meters of housing, but it has only 1.9 million. Almost one-fourth of this stock consists of worn-out temporary accommodation. The mine construction workers also have a large quantity of temporary accommodations.

You cannot get far with a string of problems "bringing up the rear." Yet a major offensive awaits the miners. The fifth giant blast furnace is being completed in Cherepovets and the Vorkuta miners must increase the extraction of coking coal by 1.5 million to metric tons for this furnace within the next few years. But what are they to do if even today's plan is successfully completed only by "catching up" on leave days?

"Just a few more years of this kind of planning," the secretary said, "and we will have to bring in workers from the southern regions by aircraft, the way they are brought in today to the oilfields of Mangyshlak or Tyumen."

Incidentally, in Mangyshlak and Tyumen and several other places I have also seen the results of arbitrary planning and the worship of outdated documents. There, because of the lack of manpower, new shops lie empty and people here have been obliged to make obsolete equipment or overspend materials, working according to "antiquated" normatives.

Only someone who is once removed from the work does not make mistakes. If it were a case of small blunders, if hastiness or an accident lay behind them, then there would have been no need to start this talk. However, as you can see, the trouble is that in these stories you can discern not one person's blunder but some kind of line pursued by several personnel. They are told: "That way is bad for business, you must stop!" Yet, under cover of departmental interests, they continue to twist the arm of logic. Why such stubbornness? That is what I would like to investigate.

We all remember our society's "biography." It has not been easy. When we were squeezed inside an encirclement, when caterpillar tracks flattened our border signposts, when people smirked as they looked at our womenfolk's padded jackets, the country's economy was always geared to some immediate problem: to industrialization, victory in the war, or the restoration of cities and villages destroyed by the enemy. Everything was subordinated to those lofty goals.

When we planned, we invariably set the measuring rod a notch higher. Quantitatively higher. For instance, we built 10 plants today, so we had to build 15 the next day. We built them, earmarking virtually all our funds for what we were aware was a priority, putting off comfort "for later." That was a necessity.

Our society has always been concerned for people. It is only that our potential in that sense was restricted. Now the economy is turning increasingly toward people's needs. This is clearly defined in the decisions of recent party congresses. Another shift, toward the economy's intensification, has been just as clearly outlined. From the magnitude of the technical base to its quality, so to speak. The time of shifts is also linked with the dense interweaving of the problems with which we are familiar: social, demographic, and raw material problems...

What have these problems required? Above all, considered, sensible solutions. Solutions that have been comprehensively weighed up and take account of their profound consequences, so that each person, before putting his will into action,thinks about whether there is any point in the matter he has projected, about how it will be reflected on the life of the working man, on the destiny of production, and the future of society.

However, some workers seem not to have seen all the changes or noticed the shifts. For instance, surely it is not easier to measure something "by eye," as we did in the past, to add a figure onto the figure that has been reached, and to justify the unproductive use of money by "expansion costs?" This inertia of the old is so strong in some people that they cannot stop or alter their course. For them it is not life that determines new methods but former methods that attempt to dictate matters.

At a Komi Party Obkom plenum I once heard a speech by lumberjack S. Boyko. "Tens of thousands of cubic meters of timber are rotting in piles," he said. "It is not being taken away. Yet the ministry is constantly planning the growth of procurements 'from what has been achieved.' Why?"

Why lay the foundations of a new plant, the question is heard elsewhere, when machine tools in other similar plants are working only one shift? Or why, say, is it the minister and not miners or the local soviet of the city beyond the Arctic Circle who resolves the question "Does Vorkuta need a kindergarten?" You might think that these "Whys?" or "What's the point?" are sharper than a knife. But they in no way trouble people with the inertia of the past. "This is how it has always been!" they reply without a moment's thought. "We weren't the ones who introduced it, and it is not up to us to stop it."

However, what must indeed be done is to break up what is obsolete and to go over to new methods of economic leadership.

For if scope is left open for inertia in thinking, it will be capable of giving rise to inertia in intensification of mistakes, inertia in lack of respect for public opinion, inertia in swelling of the managerial apparatus, and other hindrances that impede our movement.

They still do impede it quite a bit. Take, for example, the superfluous establishments that have grown up in some places and that duplicate each other's work: paraconstruction, paraprocurement, or paracontrol establishments. It only seems that, when they sit on the sidelines of the economy, people there do not influence things. However, the manager also lives "on what has been achieved." Endeavoring to demonstrate the inevitability of the existence of his post, he "bustles about" and extends its rights, taking them away from the production collectives. Then, in order to enhance the weight of this post, he hobbles people's independence with circulars and instructions.

In Omsk Oblispolkom, for instance, they started counting up, and they discovered that there are 26 higher bodies above a sovkhoz director. They have the right to punish him and call for a report. Many of them are not responsible for the farm's affairs and naturally do not give it anything except paperwork; they only issue orders. How? The director has no influence on that. There they are, one above the other, rights without responsibility and responsibility without rights.

The causes of all this lie in the clash of interests, in their isolation from each other. One may say, in the lack of coordination of the interests of different "bodies" and collectives.

What can you do? And...

Couldn't It Be Done Differently?

I was told the following story at Kuybyshev Party Obkom. Once upon a time, the oblast used to have a vegetable problem. People complained to the obkom and higher, but things did not get any better in the stores. There were always tomatoes ripening on the Volga steppes, and even more cucumbers. The farms sowed a great many, harvested them every year, and reported the plan fulfilled. True, the vegetables were usually rotting in the trucks outside the depot gates. The trade sector had a low target, based on "last year's achievement" again, and they easily met it. So the farms were sitting back with the plan "in the bag," and so was the trade sector. Everyone was happy, but the stores had no vegetables.

Then, on the initiative of the party obkom, the Zhiguli firm was set up in the oblast. It brought together the vegetable farms, depots, stores, and the entire management superstructure above them. The firm started doing its own cultivation, its own selling. Everyone was "harnessed" to the task in hand by their dependence on the end result. The wages of worker and general director alike began to vary depending on the main conditions: Has a good crop been grown, are expenses large, has everything been preserved and sold?

It must be observed that intermediate links, obstacles, immediately appeared. They were removed. People started paying less attention to the indicator on paper. Paramount importance was attached to the evaluation based on the ability to spend little and give much and the capacity for increasing overall profit. Work began to go well. Now not only the farms and the trade sector are pleased, and the inhabitants of the industrial oblast are pleased, too. The state is the winner.

Make people depend on the end result! This idea has been voiced increasingly frequently in recent years.

This demand of life meets with wide support. Large-scale experiments are under way in various sectors, leading to good results. Science-and-production associations where the scientist and the production worker march in the same "harness" of common interest are emerging or are already performing well. So the idea is growing stronger through the efforts of party organization. However, the trouble is that leaders of some sectors think that assessment by end results is necessary down there, at the lower stages of administration. But higher up, everything can stay as it was. They can keep the same old methods, the same independence of work results. Old rules for new times, so to speak. But it is so important to establish a common denominator in the interests of every worker in a sector! To ensure that the material well-being of both the minister and his entire aparatus depends on the state of production in general and on the extent of return on the resources invested. After all, would the workers of the Ministry of Nonferrous Metallurgy or the Ministry of the Coal Industry have allowed their enterprises to get into a difficult position if their own salaries had dwindled as a result? I am sure they would not. They would have thought, reconsidered, weighed any decision many times over. They would have pursued a technical policy at top level and concerned themselves with the sector's prospects. They would have rid the system's apparatus of superfluous jobs and unnecessary intermediate-level services, restoring their rights to the production workers.

The party committees of departments and ministries are called upon to play an important role in restructuring the thinking of workers at top management levels. By increasing the responsibility of Communists in this sphere for the return on resources invested, they will encourage people to ensure the smooth running of the economic machinery and train them to work efficiently. Incidentally, this is being done today in Kirgiz ministries. This is promoted by the strict stance of the republican Communist Party Central Committee Bureau. Its sessions regularly hear reports by ministers and secretaries of apparatus party committees and call them strictly to account if they fail to devote sufficient attention to increasing enterprises' autonomy and developing forms of self-management. Yet it is on the fertile soil of autonomy that the bold creative quest can grow and initiative can flourish. These two things, initiative and the creative quest, are the driving force of success.

After all, it is possible, for instance, by citing the inadequacy of resources, even after the well-known decisions on developing the Non-Chernozem, to look on passively as the villages there continue to empty. We can see such a picture in several zones. Alternatively, it is possible to seek a way out of a difficult situation, to find it, and to become master of the situation, as they have done in Moscow and Ivanovo Oblasts. Here, on the initiative of the party obkoms, they first strengthened the construction workers' material base, then started developing the countryside. All the industrial enterprises also joined in this noble work. In place of the old huts, there are cottages, stores, and medical centers, and hard-surfaced roads now run between the villages. Many such villages have grown up. People are glad to settle in them, and construction work is continuing.

The possibility exists everywhere to work better than yesterday, to give people more. If this is not being done in some places, it is because they are hampered by inertia or someone's indifference. Fearing the pernicious influence of inertia, V.I. Lenin noted: "The merciless expulsion of superfluous officials, the reduction of staffs, the replacement of Communists who do not seriously study management affairs -- that must be the line..."

Today, not studying management affairs seriously means being a total slave to the machinery of long-standing relations. But the true Communist is always the creator of that machinery and is capable of improving its operation. Of perfecting the cause.

MARSHAL YEFIMOV ON COMBAT ROLE OF USSR AIR FORCE

PM191541 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Mar 85 Second Edition p 2

[Article by Marshal of Aviation A. Yefimov, commander in chief of the Air Forces and USSR deputy defense minister: "The Fatherland's Reliable Wings"]

[Excerpts] Our country's working people, Soviet Army and Navy servicemen, and everyone who values world peace are preparing to celebrate the 40th anniversary of our people's victory in the Great Patriotic War as the brightest and most joyous jubilee. In fierce fighting against fascism, Soviet people led by Lenin's party defended the freedom and independence of their socialist fatherland, brought liberation from the Hitlerite yoke to the enslaved peoples of Europe, and saved world civilization from fascist barbarism. As the CPSU Central Committee resolution "On the 40th Anniversary of the Soviet People's Victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945" noted, this was the victory of the Soviet state created by the great Lenin, of the most advanced social system and of the socialist economic system.

As we think back to the events of those grim years, we note with pride that, along with servicemen of the other branches of the Armed Forces, our airmen also made a weighty contribution to the historic victory over Hitlerite Germany. Order No 51 of the supreme commander in chief dated 19 August 1945 said: "In the Soviet people's Great Patriotic war against fascist Germany our Air Force did its duty to the motherland with honor.."

The victory of the Soviet people and their Armed Forces in the Great Patriotic War was a historic moment in the destiny of all mankind. However, international imperialism has not drawn the proper lessons from World War II. The United States and its NATO allies are continuing in their attempts to achieve military superiority over the USSR and the other Warsaw Pact countries. They have launched an unprecedented arms race on land, at sea, and in the air and are preparing to begin one in space. Aggressive NATO circles are gambling considerably on the use of aircraft in a future war.

The Communist Party and Soviet Government are firmly and consistently pursuing a policy of peace. They are resolutely struggling against the threat of nuclear catastrophe and all wars, on earth and in space, and for limiting the arms race.

At the same time the Soviet state is forced to constantly concern itself with maintaining its Armed Forces' combat might and combat readiness at the proper level. In his speech at the CPSU Central Committee March Plenum Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said: "In the complex international situation it is more important than ever to keep our motherland's defense capability at such a level as to ensure that potential aggressors are well aware that an encroachment upon the security of the Soviet land and its allies and the peaceful life of Soviet people will be met by a crushing retaliatory blow. Our illustrious Armed Forces will continue to receive everything necessary to do that."

Thanks to the measures taken by the party the Air Forces' combat might has been raised to a new level. They are now equipped with first-class aviation hardware and weaponry and manned by highly skilled personnel who are boundlessly devoted to the party's cause and the socialist motherland.

The modern Air Forces are a branch of the Armed Forces possessing high maneuverability. They are based on sophisticated aircraft complexes, have high flying and technical qualities, and are equipped with the very latest armaments and detection and fire guidance systems.

They are capable of conducting highly dynamic combat operations, efficiently defeating the enemy's air defenses, striking against targets deep in the enemy's rear, carrying our reconnaissance, providing air support for ground troops and naval forces, and resolving many other tasks independently and in conjuction with other branches of the Armed Forces.

Socialist competition under the slogan "Let us devote our selfless military labor to the 40th anniversary of the great victory and the 27th CPSU Congress!" has been launched on a wide scale among Air Force units with the active participation of party and Komsomol organizations. The Red Banner guard's bomber regiment commanded by Guards Colonel A. Tsarkov initiated the competition.

Great and complex tasks face Air Force personnel this year. There is considerable work to be done to ensure the further improvement of organization, discipline, and regulation order. It is necessary to organize day-to-day combat training in such a way that new Air Force hardware is assimilated in the shortest possible time and to a high standard and that the utmost use is made of the potential of modern weaponry. At the same time there must be no slackness or oversimplification, and the fullest possible account must be taken of the specific features of modern warfare. It is very important to ensure flight safety and to eliminate the conditions that give rise to flying accidents.

Commanders and staffs carefully study Soviet airmen's World War II combat experience and incorporate it in the troops' daily training. They search for rational ways of organizing close collaboration between Air Force and other branches of the Armed Forces. Incidentally, combined-arms commanders now have aircraft at their disposal, and they must also learn to use them intelligently and not scatter their forces and must study the specific characteristics and potential of aircraft in greater depth.

Airmen's day-to-day training is full of examples of heroism, bravery, and fearlessness. Having taken over the veterans' baton, the present generation of airmen are by their selfless service to the fatherland augmenting the Air Force's glorious traditions. In a difficult situation, on combat duty, or while carrying out special assignments or training flights in conditions as close as possible to actual combat airmen operate boldly, decisively, and coolly as if at the front. The names of our people's airmen such as Officers G. Yeliseyev, (?V.) Gaynutdinov, V. Shcherbakov, Ye. Zelnyakov, (?V.) Kot, V. Pavlov, P. Ruban, and other heroes of the Soviet Union, rightly stand alongside the names of our glorious front-line aces.

Closely united around the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee, Air Force personnel, like all servicemen in the Armed Forces, are always on the alert and are constantly ready to discharge with honor their duty to defend their beloved fatherland and the cause of peace and socialism.

KURKOTKIN ADDRESSES MEETING OF RAILROAD TROOPS

PM191430 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 19 Mar 85 Second Edition p 2

[Report by Lieutentant Colonel A. Vovk: "Meeting of Command Staff"]

[Text] A meeting of the commanders of railroad troops units has been held. A report was delivered by Colonel General M. Makartsev, chief of the Railroad Troops. He analyzed the results achieved in improving the combat readiness of units and subunits and the results in fulfilling production targets and strengthening military and labor discipline in light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR defense minister.

Lieutenant General A. Stolyarov, member of the Military Council and chief of the Railroad Troops Political Directorate, devoted his speech to the improvement of ideological and political education work and the preparations that have been launched among the troops to worthily greet the 27th CPSU Congress and the 40th anniversary of the great victory.

The meeting participants exchanged experience of work, listened to reports by specialists, spoke at seminars, and visited demonstration exercises.

The meeting was addressed by Marshal of the Soviet Union S. Kurkotkin, USSR deputy defense minister and chief of the USSR Armed Forces Rear Services. Lieutenant General V. Nechayev, deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, took part in the meeting's work.

SHESTOPALOV PRESENTS BANNER TO COLLECTIVE

PM181131 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Mar 85 Second Edition p 1

[Lieutenant Colonel A. Bayko report under general heading "For Valiant Labor"]

[Text] The collective of the construction organization headed by Major General G. Glazunov did shock work last year. The yearly plan for construction and installation work was fulfilled by 14 December. Labor productivity has increased 12.9 percent in the first 4 years of the 5-year plan.

The successes achieved were the result of joint efforts by all members of the collective. They persistently assimilate front-ranking experience and new construction techniques. The collectives headed by Comrade V. Moiseyev, A. Ryazantsev, P. Dayneko, and N. Siluyanov are in the vanguard of those competing.

The construction organization collective has been awarded the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee Challenge Red Banner for the successes in All-Union Socialist Competition in 1984. The motherland's high award was presented by Marshal of Engineering Troops N. Shestopalov, USSR deputy defense minister for construction and billeting of troops.

Colonel General V. Bychenko, chief of the Military Construction Units' Political Directorate, attended the ceremonial meeting.